TOKYO
BABYLON
東京

第一章　全地
時に人々は東に移
住んだ。
よ
じ
言
葉スプ
しようとらけ
に
をやめた。てて
てって主って　そこで彼らの
しらをようにしよう」。こう
が彼らをそこから全地のおもてに散らされたの
彼らは町を建てるのをやめた。これによってそ
名はバベルと呼ばれた。主がそこで全地の言葉を
こから彼らを全地のおもてに散ら

6
CLAMP

A SAVE TOKYO CITY STORY

PLANNING ● PRESENTED

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TOKYO BABYLON ● SP

COSTUME DESIGN • MOKONA APAPA DRESS • CLAMP BRAND

A SAVE TOKYO CITY STORY

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TOKYO BABYLON●SIX●CONTENTS

VOL.9「NEWS」 9

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STORY ● Ageha Ohkawa

COMIC ● Mokona Apapa

DIRECTION ● Tsubaki Nekoi

ART ASSISTANT ● Satsuki Igarashi

COVER AND POSTER ILLUSTRATION ● Mokona Apapa

BOOK DESIGN ● Ageha Ohkawa

A SAVE TOKYO CITY STORY 6

東京 BABYLON

STARRING SUBARU SUMERAGI/HOKUTO SUMERAGI/SEISHIRO SAKURAZUKA

AND THE INHABITANTS OF TOKYO

FIRST PUBLICATION/SOUTH SHINSHOKAN INC.+NEWIN

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VOL.9/NEWS

MADE IN JAPAN 1993
TOKYO BABYLON

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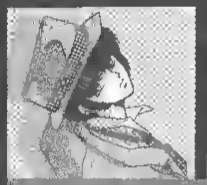
THE CAST OF TOKYO BABYLON



SUMERAGI SUBARU

The thirteenth generation Onmyoji of the Sumeragi clan, and the hero of our story. Sixteen-year-old Subaru lives with his twin sister, Hokuto, in Tokyo's ritzy Shinjuku district. Subaru, like the previous clan leaders before him, was born with special powers for combatting evil forces; in fact, Subaru's powers might be the strongest to date. Per the advice of his grandmother (the twelfth heir), Subaru must always wear gloves to protect that power. The Sumeragi clan has protected Japan from spiritual enemies since ancient times, and as the heir, that task now falls to Subaru. His shikigami (familiar) is a three-headed white crow.

SUMERAGI HOKUTO

Subaru's twin sister, roommate and sidekick. In addition to helping out with her limited magical abilities, she helps motivate the soft-spoken and unconfident Subaru into action. She makes matching costumes for the two of them, with her own outfits being particularly over-the-top. Much to Subaru's chagrin, Hokuto has decided that her brother's one true love is Seishiro, and she's not about to let little things like age difference and their being the same gender keep her from pushing them together.

SAKURAZUKA SEISHIRO

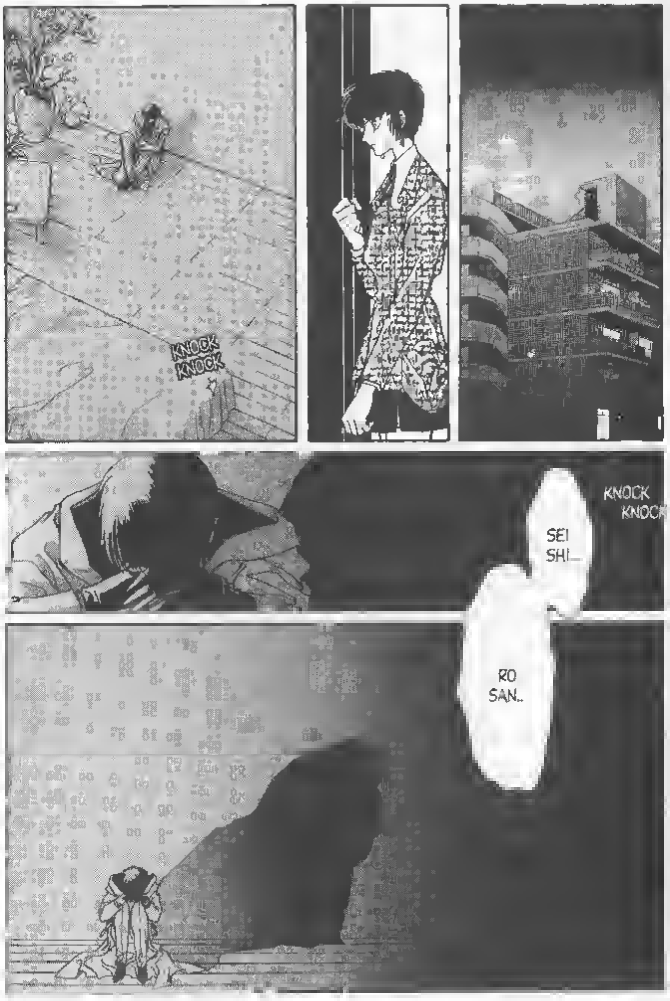
By day a veterinarian, Seishiro spends all his free time (and even when he's not free, he makes the time) helping Subaru on his assignments. He's usually carefree and joking with the Sumeragi twins, but he's fiercely protective of Subaru. Uuh...known not to the twins, he has powers of his own. Is he related to the infamous Sakuramukumon assassin clan? His shikigami takes the form of an eagle.

AND THE INHABITANTS OF TOKYO

REGARDING NAMES

Tokyo Babylon retains the original Japanese naming conventions. Names are listed family name first, and are followed with any honorific used in the original text. The honorifics used in this volume include:

-san: The most common suffix, -san is the equivalent to Mr. or Ms.
-chan: Indicates friendly familiarity, most often applied toward girls.
-kun: Indicates friendly familiarity, most often applied toward boys or by someone of a higher social status to someone beneath them.



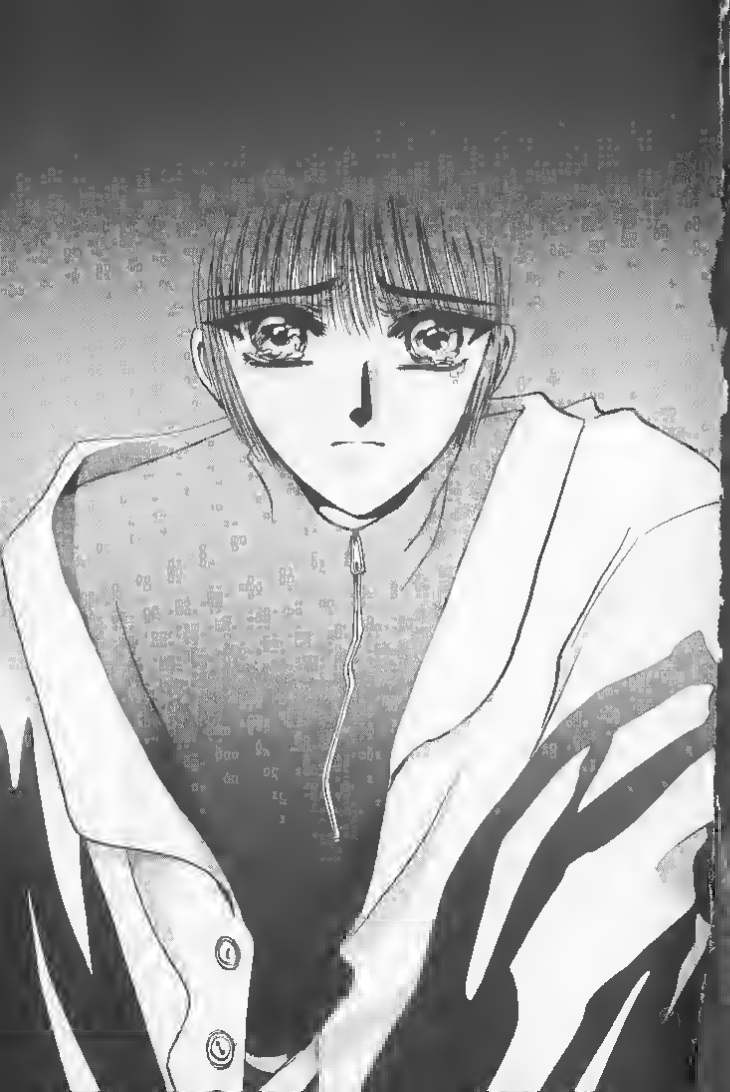
There is no such thing as "everyone."

HOW IS SEISHIRO SAN...?
I'LL MAKE YOU SOME SOUP
YOU HAVEN'T EATEN ANYTHING, SUBARU
IF YOU DON'T EAT YOU'LL COLLAPSE

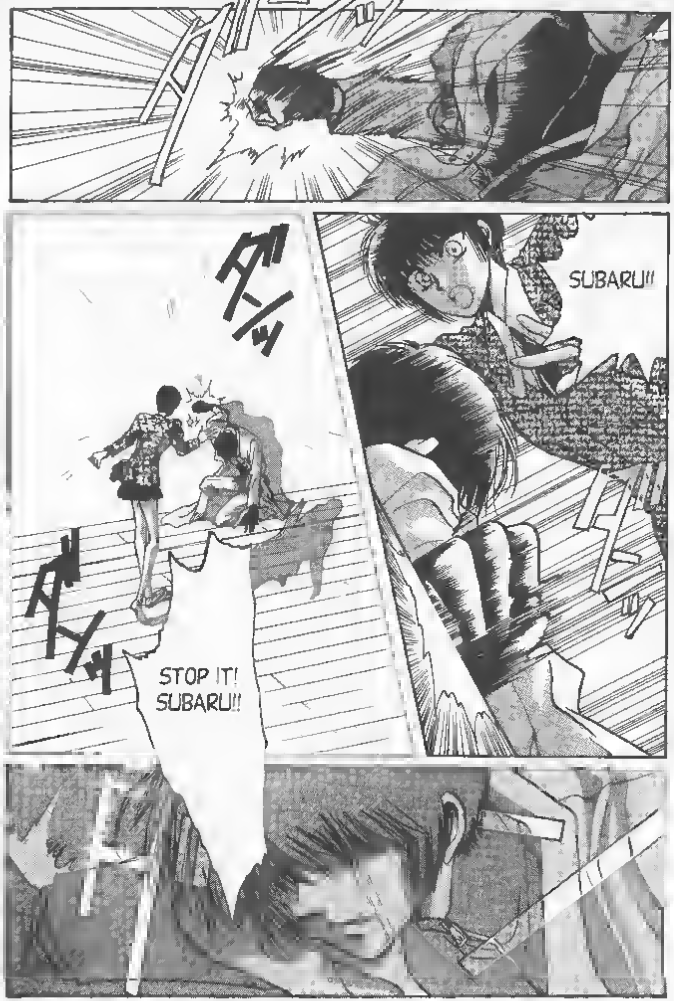
ガチャ
SUBARU...

HIS RIGHT EYE.
...HE'S BLIND IN HIS RIGHT EYE.

SEISHIRO-SAN.
...HOW IS SEISHIRO-SAN...?



EVEN SURGERY...
...WON'T SAVE HIS EYE NOW.


SUBARU!!
STOP IT! SUBARU!!

CALM DOWN!
ぱちん
NONE OF THAT WILL HEAL SEI-CHAN'S EYE!!
SEISHIRO-SAN...

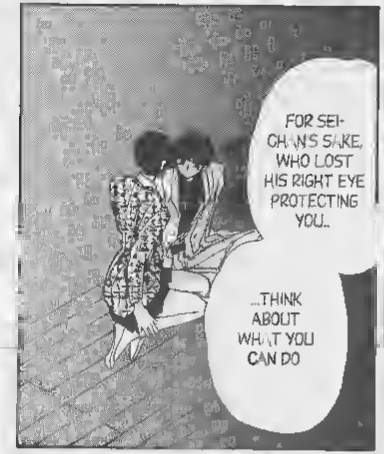
SUBARU... YOU CAN CRY, AND YOU CAN SCREAM.
BUT SEI-CHAN WILL STILL BE BLIND.
C'MON LOOK IT'S ME.
HOKUTO-CHAN.
THAT'S RIGHT... YOUR FAVORITE AND ONLY SISTER
BE STRONG, SUBARU
..I WOULD CRY AND CRY...
..UNTIL PEOPLE THOUGHT I WAS CRAZY
BELIEVE ME. IF CRYING WOULD HELP HEAL SEI-CHAN'S EYE.
NO MATTER HOW MUCH YOU CRY OR BLAME YOURSELF... YOU CAN'T CHANGE THE PAST

SUBARU?
BUT FIRST WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO?

I WANT TO SAY I'M SORRY
I WANT TO TELL SEISHIRO-SAN I'M SORRY
ALL RIGHT THEN...
..WE'LL GO TO THE HOSPITAL TOMORROW.
AND YOU CAN APOLOGIZE TO SEI-CHAN AS MUCH AS YOU WANT

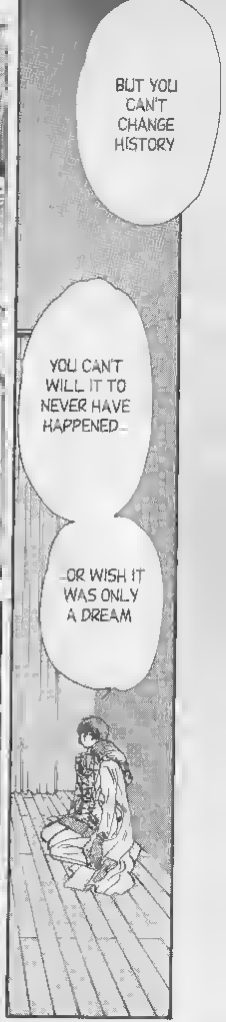
SEI-
-SHIRO-SAN-

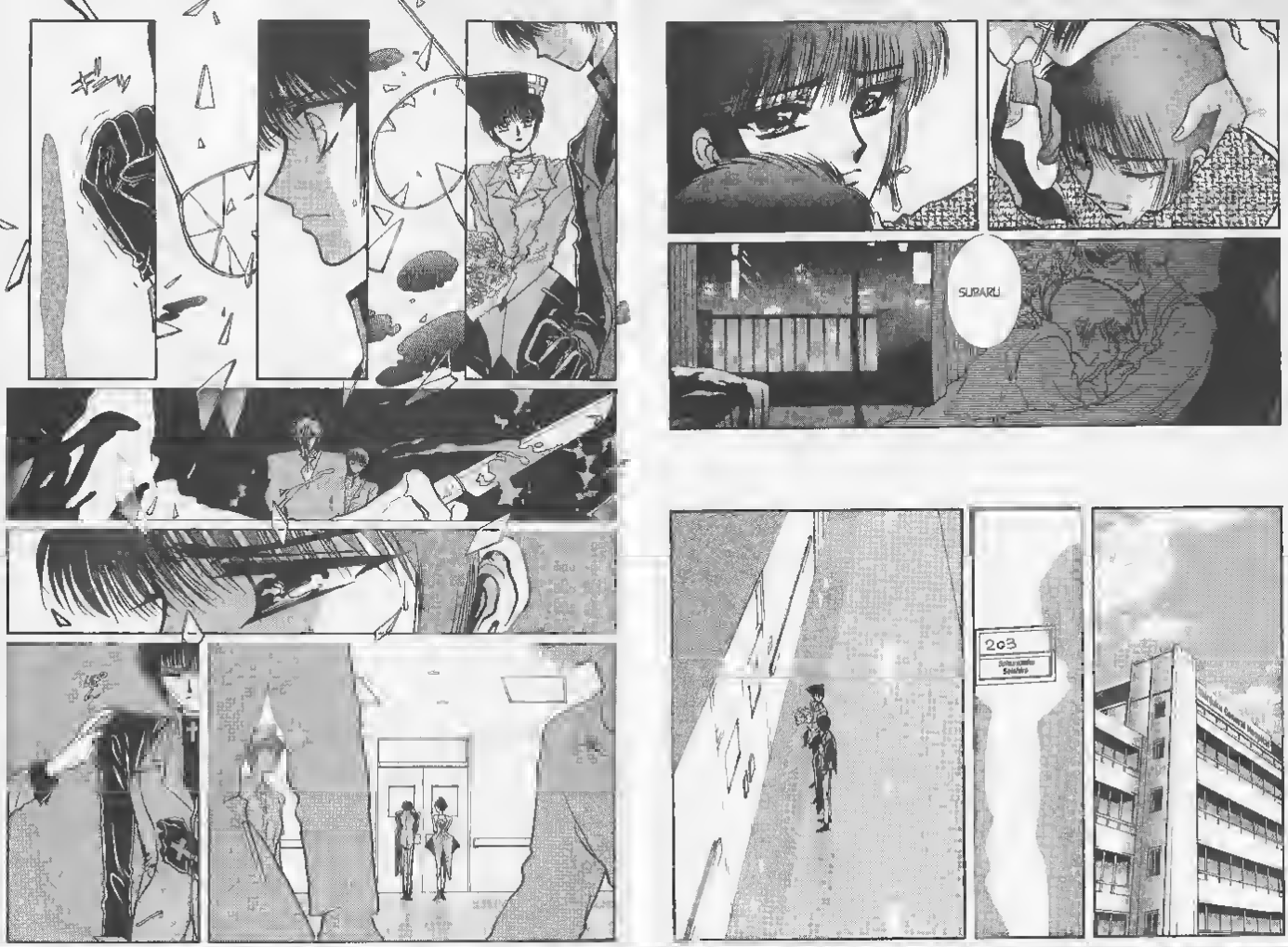
SO PLEASE, SUBARU
THINK


FOR SEI-CHAN'S SAKE, WHO LOST HIS RIGHT EYE PROTECTING YOU..
...THINK ABOUT WHAT YOU CAN DO

THOUGHTS LIKE THAT ARE MEANINGLESS THEY DON'T CHANGE ANYTHING.
IN FACT, THEY ONLY MAKE THINGS WORSE.

YOU NEED TO THINK ABOUT..
...WHAT YOU CAN DO FOR SEI-CHAN


BUT YOU CAN'T CHANGE HISTORY
YOU CAN'T WILL IT TO NEVER HAVE HAPPENED..
-OR WISH IT WAS ONLY A DREAM


SUPARU
203

EVEN IF SEI-CHAN CAN'T FORGIVE YOU?
YOU WANT TO APOLOGIZE TO SEI-CHAN RIGHT?
SUBARU
I DON'T BELIEVE HE WILL FORGIVE ME...
YOU NEED TO APOLOGIZE TO SEI-CHAN...
...SO THAT'S WHAT YOU SHOULD DO UNTIL YOU FEEL BETTER
EVEN IF HE REJECTS YOU OR ATTACKS YOU
THEN THAT'S WHAT YOU SHOULD DO
...BUT...
...ALL I CAN DO IS APOLOGIZE

BEYOND THAT
...WELL, YOU CAN THINK ABOUT THAT LATER.
...HOKUTO-CHAN
THANK YOU...
COME IN

HELLO
WHY AREN'T YOU IN SCHOOL?
PLEASE
HAVE A SEAT
OR ARE YOU ON YOUR WAY BACK FROM WORK?

THIS IS... ALL I CAN DO
SUBARU-KUN.

DID SOMETHING BAD HAPPEN AT WORK?
SUBARU-KUN WHAT'S WRONG?
..YOU'RE NOT FEELING WELL?
OR MAYBE...
I'M SORRY!

YOU DON'T LOOK WELL..
WHAT IS IT.. SUBARU-KUN?
IF YOU OVERWORK YOURSELF, HOKUTO-CHAN WILL WORRY
YOU'RE NOT WORKING TOO HARD, ARE YOU?
YOU SEEM TO HAVE A FEVER.
WELL, YOU'RE IN THE RIGHT PLACE. YOU SHOULD STOP BY INTERNAL MEDICINE FOR A CHECKUP WHILE YOU'RE HERE.

YOU MEAN THIS?
OH

THAT'S NOT YOUR FAULT, SUBARU-KUN
IT WAS MY CHOICE.

BUT WHY ARE YOU APOLOGIZING, SUBARU-KUN?
IT'S MY FAULT
YOU TRIED TO PROTECT ME..

THAT'S NOT TRUE!

YOUR EYE
..SEISHIRO-SAN...

WHAT?
I'M SORRY!
I'M SORRY!
I'M SO SORRY...!!

WHAT'S GOING ON?
WHY ARE YOU APOLOGIZING TO ME, SUBARU-KUN?

I'M SORRY..

SUBARU-KUN..

...NO

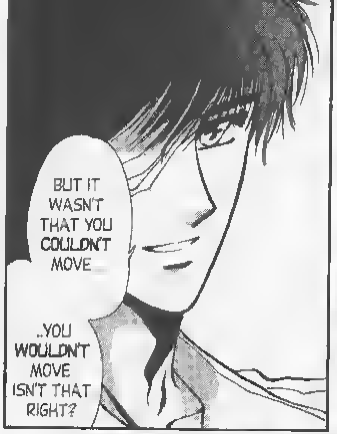
OR IF A METEOR FELL ON YOUR HEAD...
...AND YOU WERE BADLY HURT...
...WOULD YOU HATE EVERYONE WHO WAS THERE WHEN IT HAPPENED?

NO

IF YOU SLIPPED AND FELL ON A BANANA PEEL...
...WOULD YOU BLAME THE PERSON WHO WAS WITH YOU?
EVEN IF THEY WEREN'T THE ONE WHO DROPPED THE PEEL?

I WASN'T PLANNING ON PROTECTING YOU, SUBARU-KUN.
I JUST HAPPENED TO GET BETWEEN YOU AND THE WOMAN THAT'S ALL.

SEISHIRO-SAN...


BUT IT WASN'T THAT YOU COULDN'T MOVE...
...YOU WOULDN'T MOVE ISN'T THAT RIGHT?

I WAS STANDING IN FRONT OF THAT WOMAN...
...AND I COULDN'T MOVE!

SUBARU-KUN...
YOU WANTED HER TO STAB YOU DIDN'T YOU?
WHAT?

AND THEN THERE WAS YUYA KUN
YOU WANTED TO GIVE HIM YOUR KIDNEY, DIDN'T YOU?
IF SHE COULD SOMEHOW RELIEVE HERSELF OF HER PAIN...
...THAT WAS GOOD ENOUGH FOR YOU

BUT..!!
THEN WHAT HAPPENED TO ME HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU
EVERYTHING I DID I DID BY MY OWN CHOICE.
..OR TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT YUYA-KUN'S MOTHER.
YOU NEVER ASKED ME TO PROTECT YOU..
EVEN WHEN WE WANT TO DO SOMETHING FOR ANOTHER PERSON..
..IT'S ONLY BECAUSE WE WANT THE SATISFACTION THAT WE MADE SOMEONE ELSE HAPPY
EVERYONE'S ACTIONS ARE ENTIRELY SELFISH
YOU'RE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ANYTHING, SUBARU-KUN.
SEI-SHIRO-SAN...

I PREFERRED YOU TO BE HEALTHY
SO I GOT IN HER WAY
YOU WERE PREPARED TO LET THAT WOMAN SERIOUSLY INJURE YOU
MY ACTIONS WERE NO DIFFERENT
I WAS BEING SELFISH... NOTHING MORE.
BUT IF YOU'RE THAT DISTRESSED OVER THIS WHOLE THING..
MAYBE I SHOULD GET YOU TO DO ME A FAVOR
SEI-SHIRO-SAN...
AND HERE I THOUGHT YOU WERE GOING TO SCOLD ME..
..FOR GETTING IN YOUR WAY

SO LET'S SEE...! WANT AN ANGEL CREAM, A D-POP
...OH, AND CAN I GET A FEW OLD FASHIONED DONUTS TOO?
AFTER ALL, I'M NOT ALLOWED TO GO OUTSIDE YET
I'M JUST DYING FOR SOMETHING SWEET!
SUBARU
...DID YOU GET TO APOLOGIZE?
SUBARU!

WILL YOU DO...
...ANY-THING I ASK?
IN THAT CASE...
...TREAT ME TO AN ANGEL CREAM FROM MISTER DONUT!

SEISHIRO-
SAN...

YOU'RE
JUST
IN
TIME.

コンコン
COME
IN.
SO YOU
CAME
TO SEE
ME TOO,
HOKUTO-
CHAN?

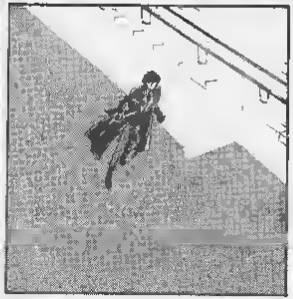
WHY DON'T
WE EAT
TOGETHER,
JUST THE
THREE OF US?
SUBARU-KUN
IS MAKING
A MISTER
DONUT RUN!

TO
MISTER
DONUT!
HUH?!

I'VE
GOT TO
GO.

W-
WHERE
ARE YOU
GOING?

ital
PAN

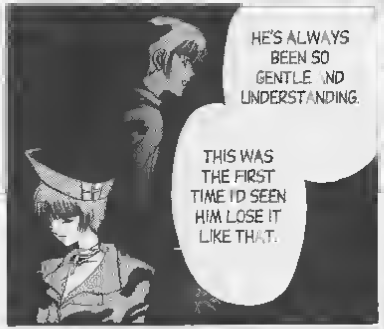


FOR FORGIVING SUBARU.
?
THANK YOU BY THE WAY.
FOR WHAT?
BUT SUBARU-KUN DIDN'T DO ANYTHING
I DON'T UNDERSTAND YOU
.....
WELL, YOU ALWAYS SEEM LIKE SUCH A GENTLE, SMILING PERSON.
BUT—
—THAT DOESN'T MEAN YOU'RE ALWAYS SMILING WHEN YOU LOOK THE OTHER WAY.
I ALWAYS FIGURED YOU HAD A FLIP SIDE.
A FLIP SIDE?
? ?

OH, THAT'S RIGHT
I HAVE SOME TEA HERE, TOO
SEI-CHAN.
HERE
THE NURSE GAVE ME A FEW TEABAGS
I'LL MAKE THE WORLD'S MOST DELICIOUS TEA BEFORE SUBARU GETS BACK!!
Yayyyyy!
OKAY, THEN!!
WHAT'S WRONG, HOKUTO-CHAN?
DO YOU PREFER A DIFFERENT BRAND?
.....

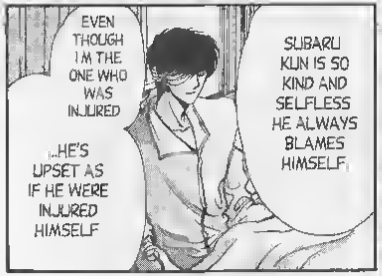
LIKE THE BIG BAD WOLF EATING LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD..
HA HA HA HA!

..I WAS WORRIED YOU MIGHT EAT SUBARU OR SOMETHING SEI-CHAN!
SO WHEN THIS HAPPENED


HE'S ALWAYS BEEN SO GENTLE AND UNDERSTANDING.
THIS WAS THE FIRST TIME I'D SEEN HIM LOSE IT LIKE THAT.

I'VE NEVER SEEN SUBARU LOSE SUCH COMPLETE CONTROL...
..OF HIMSELF.

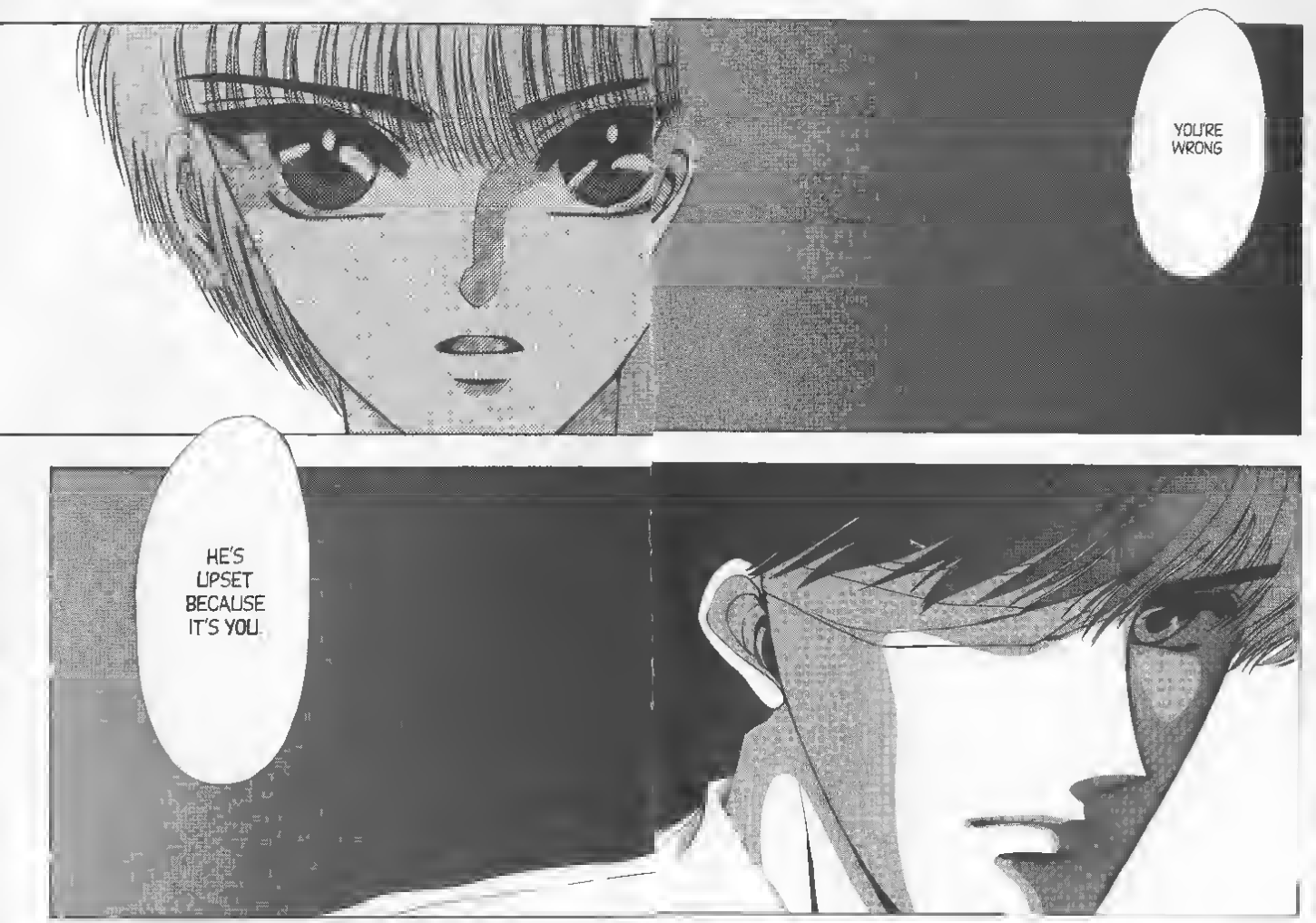
THAT'S WHAT SUBARU WAS EXPECTING ANYWAY
I'M SURE HE WOULD HAVE ACCEPTED..
..ANYTHING YOU DID WITH HIM.


EVEN THOUGH I'M THE ONE WHO WAS INJURED
..HE'S UPSET AS IF HE WERE INJURED HIMSELF
SUBARU KUN IS SO KIND AND SELFLESS HE ALWAYS BLAMES HIMSELF,

..SAKURAZUKA SEISHIRO-SAN!
HEY, I'M TALKING ABOUT YOU..

YOU HIDE BEHIND YOUR GLASSES...
..BUT YOUR EYES...
THEY'RE NOT THE EYES OF A NORMAL PERSON.
YOUR EYES,
WHAT MADE YOU THINK THAT ABOUT ME?

..I CAN SMELL THE BLOOD ON YOU..
AND..
..EVEN THOUGH YOU'VE HIDDEN IT WELL.. BEHIND THOSE LENSES...


YOU'RE WRONG
HE'S UPSET BECAUSE IT'S YOU.

PROMISE YOU WON'T TAKE SUBARU FROM ME...TO SOMEPLACE FAR AWAY.

I DON'T KNOW.

WHERE DO YOU THINK...
...I WOULD TAKE SUBARU-KUN?

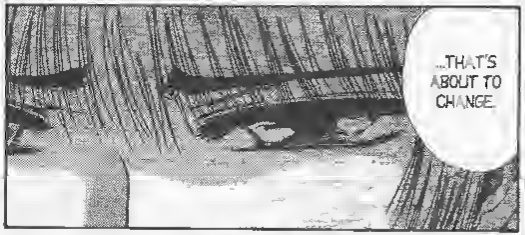
BUT I THINK

YOU MUST BE BORED SITTING IN BED ALL DAY
I'LL GO BUY YOU SOME MAGAZINES

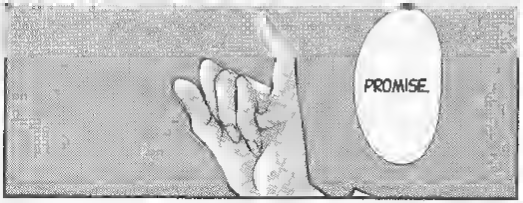
OKAY THEN!
SAKURAZUKA-SAN?
TIME TO TAKE YOUR TEMPER-ATURE.

SUBARU DOESN'T KNOW YET...
...WHAT MAKES YOU SO SPECIAL.
BUT...

YOU'RE... DIFFERENT FROM EVERYONE ELSE.


...THAT'S ABOUT TO CHANGE.

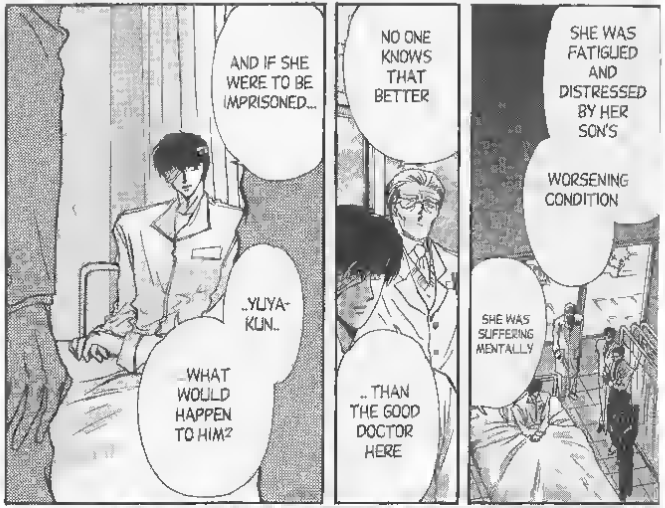
HOKUTO-CHAN...


PROMISE.

SUBARU HAS DECIDED...
...THAT YOU ARE SPECIAL TO HIM.

IT WOULD SEEM...
...MY TIME IS UP.

SHE'S VERY CUTE.
YES AND THERE WILL BE A VERY CUTE BOY COMING BY SOON, TOO
HA HA HA HA HA HA!
SOME REALLY SEXY ONES
OKAY! I'LL BE BACK IN A FEW MINUTES
Tee Hee
MAKE SURE YOU HOLD THE THERMO-METER IN PLACE!
OOOO-KAAAAY
VERY PERCEPTIVE, HOKUTO-CHAN
I'M IMPRESSED

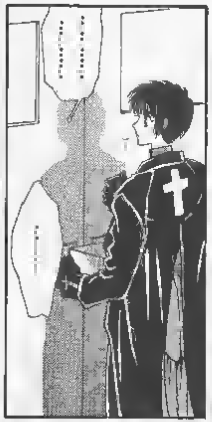

AND IF SHE WERE TO BE IMPRISONED...
..YUYA-KUN..
...WHAT WOULD HAPPEN TO HIM?
NO ONE KNOWS THAT BETTER
.. THAN THE GOOD DOCTOR HERE
SHE WAS FATIGUED AND DISTRESSED BY HER SON'S
WORSENING CONDITION
SHE WAS SUFFERING MENTALLY

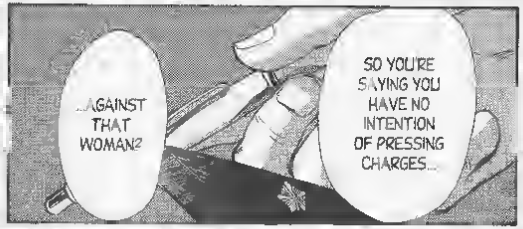
THEN...YOU'RE ALL RIGHT WITH THIS?

I'M FINE!

I REALLY DON'T CARE ANYMORE.
IN FACT

THAT'S RIGHT




...AGAINST THAT WOMAN?
SO YOU'RE SAYING YOU HAVE NO INTENTION OF PRESSING CHARGES...

WHEN THAT WOMAN GRABBED THE KNIFE...
...SHE WAS ALREADY IN A STATE OF INSANITY

BUT WE'VE CONSULTED THE DOCTOR, AND HE TOLD US YOUR RIGHT EYE IS--

I JUST HOPE THAT LITTLE BOY DOESN'T HEAR ABOUT THIS INCIDENT.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME.
PANT
...WOULD BE TOO GREAT FOR HIM TO BEAR.
I THINK THE BURDEN OF KNOWING HIS MOTHER INJURED SOMEONE...
SEISHIRO-SAN...
I DON'T THINK THEY'RE DONE YET.
ぽん
SUBARU!

W-WHERE?
OKAY THEN— LET'S GO!
YUYA-KUN'S ROOM OF COURSE!
YUYA-KUN?
SO YOU WERE A GOOD BOY AND BROUGHT THEM
AH— MISTER DONUT!
GOOD BOY
GOOD BOY
THE NURSE WOULD BE VERY UPSET IF WE BROUGHT HIM ANGEL CREAMS.
SURE. SEI-CHAN HAS TO UNDERGO AN EXAM THIS AFTERNOON ANYWAY.
HIS MOTHER IS BEING HELD FOR QUESTIONING BY THE POLICE.
YUYA-KUN WOULD HAVE BEEN LEFT ALONE, SO THE DOCTORS DECIDED TO KEEP HIM HERE.
IS YUYA-KUN STILL HERE?
SO SEI-CHAN SUGGESTED
...YOU TAKE YOUR OFFERINGS TO YUYA-KUN

YUYA-KUN KNOWS YOU'RE BUSY.. BUT PLEASE, AT LEAST TRY TO DROP BY AND VISIT HIM
I'M JUST TELLING YOU WHAT SEI-CHAN TOLD ME.
HE SAID YUYA-KUN WOULD BE LONELY
.....
OF COURSE, I'M SURE IF YOU COULD FIND THE TIME TO DROP BY SEI-CHAN'S ROOM, HE'D BE VERY HAPPY ABOUT THAT, TOO
OKAY!
NOW THEN-- ONWARD! I HAVEN'T EVEN MET YUYA-KUN YET!
ONII-CHAN!
OH!
COME IN
AND--WOW! YOU HAVE THE EXACT SAME FACE AS ONII-CHAN!
I'M SUBARU'S OLDER SISTER, HOKUTO-CHAN!
OH HO HO HO HO
HELLO, YUYA-KUN!
OH HO HO HO HO
H-HOKUTO-CHAN
HO HO HO HO!
COOOL!
YUP! I LOVE BEING A TWIN CAUSE I CAN PLAY PRACTICAL JOKES BY PRETENDING TO BE SUBARU. THERE ARE SO MANY THINGS I CAN DO DRESSED UP AS HIM!
GLAD TO MEET YOU, ONEE-CHAN!
HO HO
WOW--YOU REALLY ARE TWINS! YOU LOOK EXACTLY ALIKE

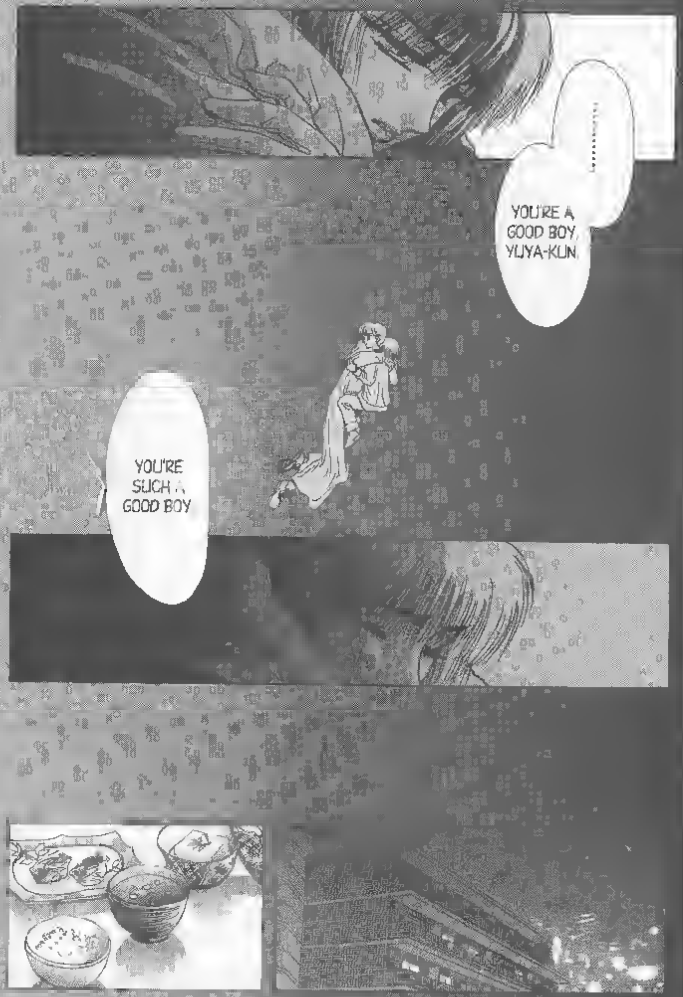
I USED TO HAVE AN ONEE CHAN TOO
BUT NOT ANYMORE.
HEY SUBARU-- YOU BROUGHT YUYA-KUN A GIFT, RIGHT?
OH-- YES!
HERE YOU GO, YUYA-KUN.
YAYYYYY!
THANK YOU!
I love angel dreams!
THANK YOU! SORRY YOU CAME TO SEE ME AND I COULDN'T TALK WITH YOU
YUP! THAT WAS ME.
OH, YEAH!
ARE YOU THE ONE WHO GAVE ME A SUPER FAMICOM AND A BARCODE BATTLER, ONEE CHAN?

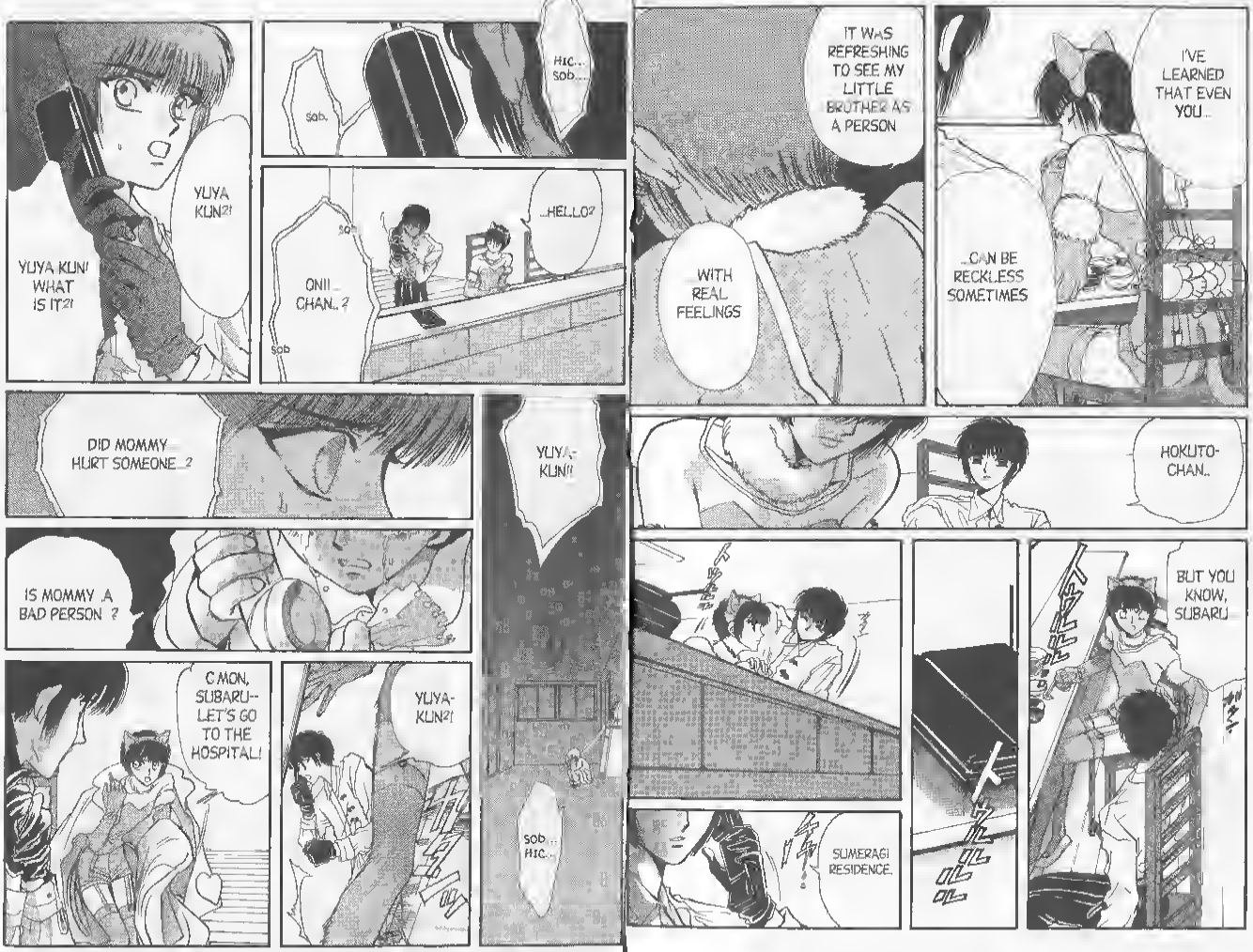
I'M FINE MY DIALYSIS WAS YESTERDAY
HOW ARE YOU FEELING TODAY?
THAT'S RIGHT!
I CAME ALL THE WAY TO SEE YOU BUT I DIDN'T GET TO--IT SURE WAS BORING
OKAY!
YOU'D BETTER GET WELL SOON SO YOU CAN PLAY WITH ME!
Yaaaaaa!
ALL RIGHTY, THEN!
I'LL SHOW YOU MY SECRET BARCODE BATTLER TECHNIQUE!!
THEN I'M OFF!
GOOD, GOOD
BUT FIRST-- LET'S EAT OUR DONUTS
YOU'RE LUCKY ONII-CHAN--TO HAVE SUCH A PRETTY AND FUN ONEE-CHAN LIKE THAT!
OH YEAH-- FUN
YOU OKAY WITH THAT SUBARU?
WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO DRINK?
APPLE JUICE!
REALLY?!
AS LONG AS YOU'D LIKE US TO BE.
ME AND HOKUTO-CHAN WILL ALWAYS BE YOUR ONII-CHAN AND ONEE-CHAN, YUYA-KUN

IT'S...
...LONELY AT NIGHT
I WANT TO TELL HER I HAVE 'N ONII-CHAN AND ONEE-CHAN RIGHT NOW!
THEN IT'S SUBARU ONII-CHAN AND HOKUTO ONEE-CHAN!
I CAN'T WAIT TO TELL MY MOMMY!
...I'M NOT SLEEPY AT NIGHT.
BUT SINCE I SLEEP DURING THE DAY...
THEY SHUT OFF ALL THE LIGHTS.
MY MOMMY TAUGHT ME HOW!
UH-HUH!
CAN YOU MAKE PHONE CALLS, YUYA-KUN?

AND I'LL COME TO THE HOSPITAL TO SEE YOU.
OR IF I'M NOT AT HOME, YOU CAN LEAVE ME A MESSAGE...
...ON THE ANSWERING MACHINE.
THEN I'LL GIVE YOU MY PHONE NUMBER.
IF YOU EVER GET LONELY AT NIGHT, JUST GIVE ME A CALL.
WOW! THANK YOU!
I WONDER IF SHE'S BUSY WITH WORK.
I CALL HOME EVERY NIGHT
...BUT MOMMY'S NOT THERE RIGHT NOW
WHAT'S WRONG ONII CHAN?

I'M SORRY, HOKUTO-CHAN.
WHAT FOR?
AND YOU NEVER LISTEN TO ME. IS THAT IT?
gloom...
YOU'VE BEEN SO WORRIED ABOUT ME.
I'M REALLY SORRY...
IT'S OKAY, SUBARU. I'M FINE.
HOKUTO CHAN...
EH. YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN STUBBORN— SINCE YOU WERE A LITTLE BOY


YOU'RE A GOOD BOY, YUYA-KUN.
YOU'RE SUCH A GOOD BOY.

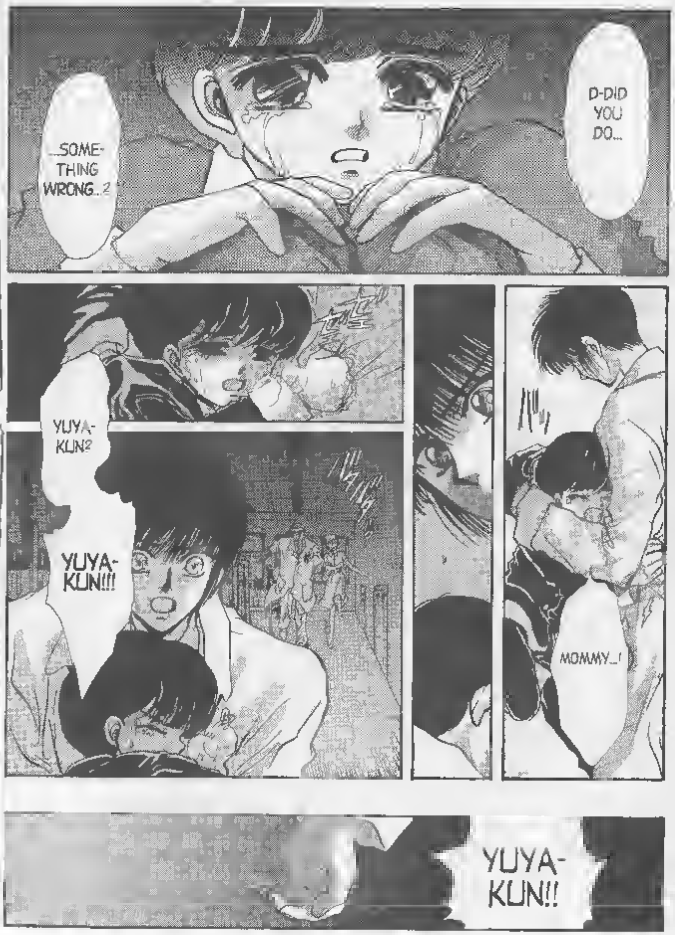

IT WAS REFRESHING TO SEE MY LITTLE BROTHER AS A PERSON
WITH REAL FEELINGS
I'VE LEARNED THAT EVEN YOU..
..CAN BE RECKLESS SOMETIMES
HOKUTO-CHAN..
BUT YOU KNOW, SUBARU...
SUMERAGI RESIDENCE..
HIC... SOB...
sob..
..HELLO?
ONII-CHAN..?
sob
YUYA KUN!
YUYA KUN! WHAT IS IT?!
DID MOMMY HURT SOMEONE..?
IS MOMMY A BAD PERSON..?
YUYA-KUN!!
SOB... HIC...
C'MON, SUBARU-- LET'S GO TO THE HOSPITAL!
YUYA-KUN?!

I DON'T KNOW WHERE THEY HEARD THE NEWS.
BUT ALL THESE TV CREWS AND REPORTERS SUDDENLY SHOWED UP...
WHAT HAPPENED?
WHO ARE THOSE PEOPLE...?
YOU TWO! THIS WAY!!
YUYA-KUN!
WHERE'S YUYA-KUN?!
"MOTHER OF TRANSPLANT CANDIDATE SUFFERS NERVOUS BREAKDOWN, STABS PERSON."
ORGAN TRANSPLANTS ARE SUCH A HOT TOPIC IN THE NEWS THESE DAYS THIS MUST BE A BIG SCOOP FOR THEM!
AND SEI-CHAN—
WHAT ABOUT SAKURAZUKA-SAN?!
THE NURSE MOVED HIM TO A DIFFERENT ROOM...
...BUT HE'S GONE MISSING.
WELL, I'VE INSTRUCTED SAKURAZUKA-SAN TO STAY IN HIS ROOM...
...UNTIL THE COMMOTION SUBSIDES BUT...
YUYA-KUN— YOU'RE AT THE HOSPITAL, RIGHT?!
I'M GOING THERE RIGHT NOW, SO STAY IN YOUR ROOM!
OKAY?!
WHAT IS THIS...?

THAT'S IT.
YUYA-KUN...?
Dialysis
YUYA KUN
NGH... SOB...
SOB
THE ROOM THAT YUYA-KUN WOULD BE MOST FAMILIAR WITH...
DID YOU...DO SOMETHING BAD ?
SOB...
MOM MY...

I'LL TAKE CARE OF SEI CHAN! YOU FIND YUYA-KUN!!
SUPARU!
WHERE ARE YOU YUYA-KUN..?
YUYA-KUN?!

WELL, THE ENTRANCE WAS PACKED WITH PRESS PEOPLE.
THIS IS IT, SUBARU. THAT NEW ROOM THE DOCTOR TOLD US ABOUT.
THE NAME-PLATE SAYS IT'S FOR SOMEONE ELSE...
THEY MUST HAVE CHANGED THE NAME TO KEEP THEM OUT.
YUYA-KUN?
フラン

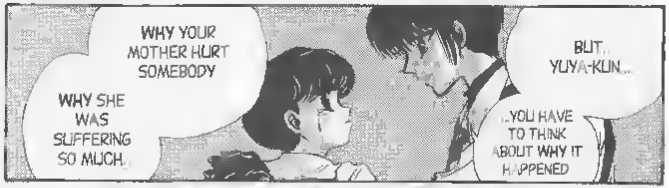

D-DID YOU DO...
...SOMETHING WRONG..?
YUYA-KUN?
YUYA-KUN!!!
MOMMY..!
YUYA-KUN!!

..BUT I DID MY BEST TO READ THEM
I COULDN'T REALLY UNDER-STAND...
THE KANJI WERE SO HARD TO READ.
IT'S MY FAULT ISN'T IT?
IT'S BECAUSE I'M WEAK
BECAUSE I'M SICK!
THAT'S WHY MOMMY HURT SOMEONE..!
YUYA-KUN..?

EVERY DAY THERE ARE HUNDREDS OF PATIENTS AWAITING ORGAN DONATIONS.
ALL OF THEM...
...SUFFERING
SHE WAS SURELY ENDURING A LOT OF STRESS AND SORROW BUT EVERYONE WHO CARES FOR A SICK LOVED ONE FEELS THE SAME PAIN
THIS MOTHER ISN'T THE ONLY ONE WHO WAS FEELING THIS WAY.
THERE IS FEAR THAT THIS INCIDENT MIGHT FURTHER COMPLICATE ORGAN TRANSPLANT POLICY...
WHAT DOES HE MEAN, "EVERY-ONE"?!
"EVERY-ONE"?
EVERYONE HAS THEIR OWN PAIN— THEIR OWN SUFFERING TO BEAR!
THERE'S NOTHING "SAME" ABOUT IT!
NO TWO PEOPLE CAN EVER FEEL THE SAME PAIN!!
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE!!
WHAT DOES HE MEAN, "THE SAME PAIN"?!
...CAN KNOW WHAT HER PAIN IS ABOUT!
ONLY YUYA KUN'S MOTHER...
...HOW COULD SHE HAVE REMAINED CALM?!
TO SEE HER PRECIOUS CHILD SUFFER LIKE THAT...

YUYA-KUN...
...DO YOU LIKE ME?
Y-YES..
WHO DO YOU LIKE BETTER THIS MAN...
ON THE TV
...OR ME?
YOU ONII CHAN

BUT IT WAS SEI-CHAN WHO WAS STABBED!
I REALIZE WHAT YUYA KUN'S MOTHER DID
WAS A CRIME.
NOT YOU!!
YUYA-KUN...


WHY YOUR MOTHER HURT SOMEBODY
WHY SHE WAS SUFFERING SO MUCH.
BUT, YUYA-KUN...
..YOU HAVE TO THINK ABOUT WHY IT HAPPENED

NO, NOT THAT.
WAS IT... BECAUSE I'M SICK...?

SHE WANTS...
...TO MAKE ME HAPPY...?

YOUR MOTHER WANTS SO MUCH TO MAKE YOU HAPPY...
...THAT SHE'S WILLING TO BE UNHAPPY IN ORDER TO MAKE YOU HAPPY.

IT WAS BECAUSE...
...YOU'RE PRECIOUS TO HER.

THOSE THINGS THE MAN ON THE TV SAID, AND THE THINGS IN THE NEWSPAPERS...
...THOSE ARE WHAT WE CALL "REALITY"

THEN, PLEASE...
...LISTEN TO ME.

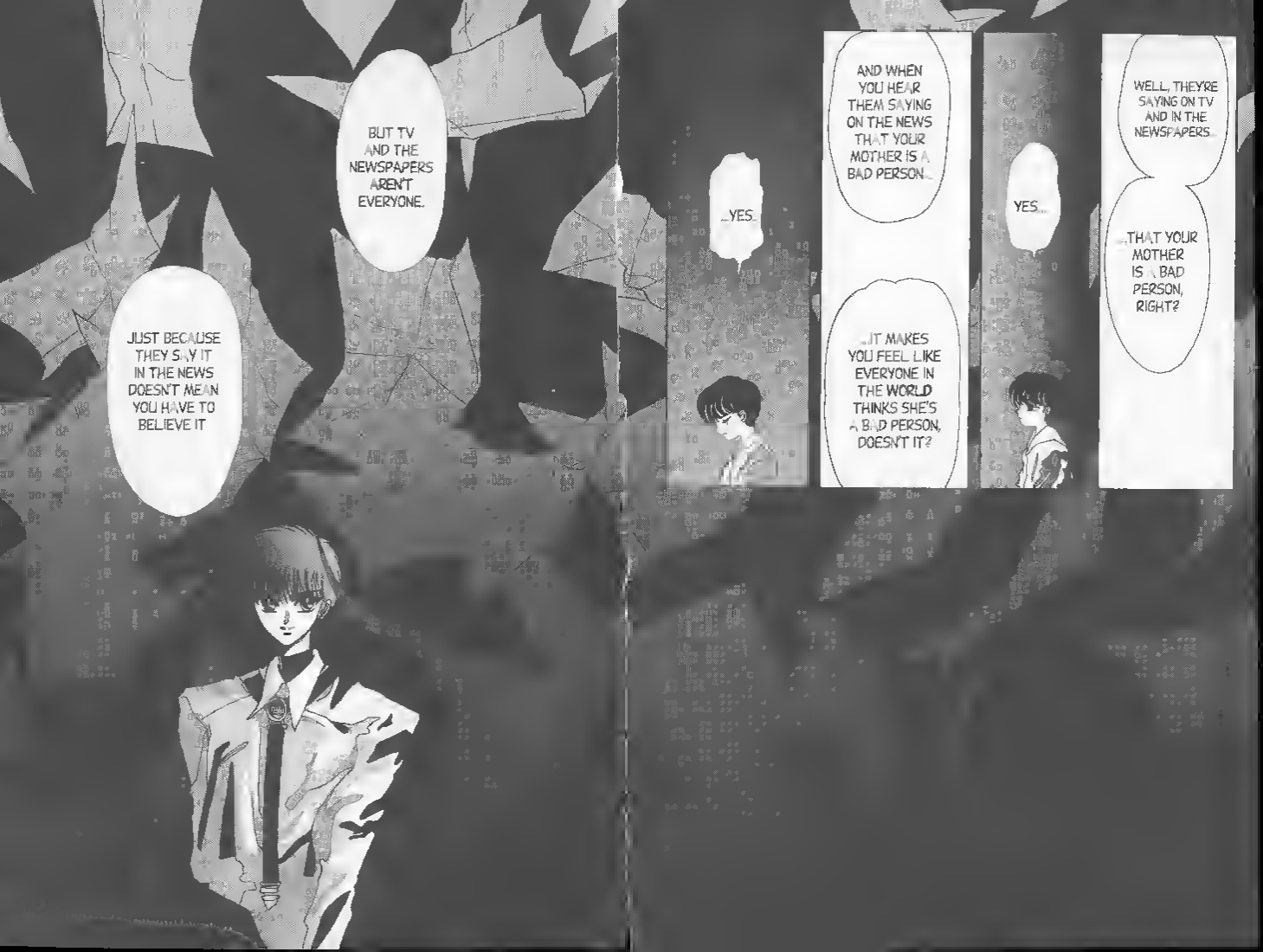
BUT THEY AREN'T THE TRUTH.

...I DON'T UNDERSTAND

THAT IS A BAD THING
IT'S TRUE THAT YOUR MOTHER HURT SOMEONE.

AND IT'S TRUE THAT THERE ARE A LOT OF TV SHOWS THAT INTERVIEW THE VICTIMS OR THE PERPETRATORS..
..BUT IT'S NOT AS IF WE CAN ASK THEM QUESTIONS DIRECTLY
..I CAN ASK MY MOMMY...?
BUT YOU, YUY..-KUN...
..YOU CAN ASK YOUR MOTHER

IT MAY BE THAT MOST OF THE NEWS IS FACT
BUT THE NEWS DOESN'T USUALLY INCLUDE THE FEELINGS..
..OF THE PERP ETRATORS OR THE VICTIMS– WHAT THEIR FAMILIES GO THROUGH
IN MOST CASES WE ONLY KNOW
..THE "REALITY" OF WHAT HAPPENED
NOT THE TRUTH BEHIND IT
WE ACCEPT TOO EASILY THAT THE THINGS WE SEE ON TV OR IN THE PAPERS ARE TRUE.


JUST BECAUSE THEY SAY IT IN THE NEWS DOESN'T MEAN YOU HAVE TO BELIEVE IT
BUT TV AND THE NEWSPAPERS AREN'T EVERYONE.
...YES...
AND WHEN YOU HEAR THEM SAYING ON THE NEWS THAT YOUR MOTHER IS A BAD PERSON...
...IT MAKES YOU FEEL LIKE EVERYONE IN THE WORLD THINKS SHE'S A BAD PERSON, DOESN'T IT?
YES...
WELL, THEY'RE SAYING ON TV AND IN THE NEWSPAPERS...
...THAT YOUR MOTHER IS A BAD PERSON, RIGHT?

SO, YUYA-KUN, YOU NEED TO THINK FOR YOURSELF AND JUDGE THE INFORMATION YOU'RE GIVEN.
ALL OF US ARE INDIVIDUALS
THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS "EVERYONE."
DO YOU REMEMBER WHAT HOKUTO-CHAN SAID?
WELL, IT'S VERY IMPORTANT TO HAVE INFORMATION.
BUT IT'S YOUR JOB TO JUDGE IT, YUYA-KUN.
YES--I LEARNED THAT WORD AT SCHOOL.
YOU UNDERSTAND RIGHT?
LOOK
THE WORD "NEWS" CAN ALSO MEAN "INFORMATION."
INFOR-MATION...?

NOW.. THINK.
DO YOU THINK YOUR MOTHER IS A BAD PERSON?
THEN THAT'S ALL YOU HAVE TO BELIEVE.
AND YOU CAN ASK YOUR MOTHER YOURSELF.
YOU CAN ASK HER WHY SHE HURT SOMEONE..
..WHAT SHE WAS THINKING AT THE TIME
NO
..ND AFTER THAT...
..YOU SHOULD TELL HER..
..THAT YOU REALLY LOVE HER

THAT YOU'VE BEEN LONELY WITHOUT HER
AND THAT BEING WITH HER...
..IS WHAT MAKES YOU HAPPIEST

YUYA! KUN..
I LIKE IT BEST BECAUSE...
...IT'S MOMMY'S PUDDING.

OKAY!
...IS THE BEST!
THAT THE PUDDING MOMMY MAKES...
I'LL TELL HER...
IT'S NOT AS GOOD WHEN SOMEBODY ELSE MAKES IT
...I FEEL BETTER!
WHENEVER I EAT MOMMY'S PUDDING EVEN WHEN I DON'T FEEL GOOD AFTER MY DIALYSIS
OR IF IT'S BOUGHT AT THE STORE...

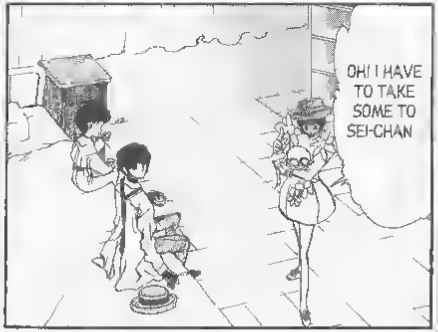
THEY'RE PROS AT CHASING PEOPLE
I'll do my best!
YOU'LL NEED LOTS OF NUTRITION IF YOU'RE GOING TO BEAT THOSE REPORTERS OUT THERE

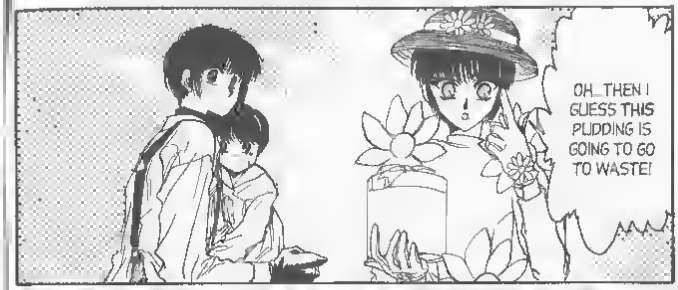
ずいっ
AFTER ALL, LATELY..
YOU HAVEN'T BEEN EATING RIGHT AT ALL!

HEY, SUBARU YOU EAT UP, TOO

UH, OKAY...

SEI-SHIRO-SAN.

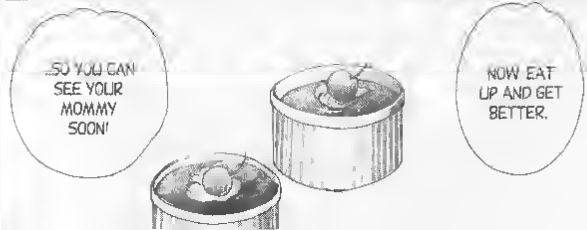

OH! I HAVE TO TAKE SOME TO SEI-CHAN


OH...THEN I GUESS THIS PUDDING IS GOING TO GO TO WASTE!

I LIKE YOU A WHOLE LOT, ONEE-CHAN!
YOU'RE GOOD AT MAKING CANDY AND STUFF
AND YOU'RE PRETTY!

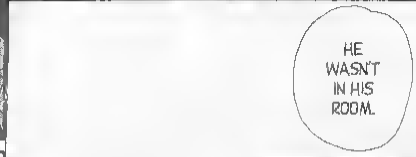
THAT'S OKAY-- I'LL EAT IT!
YOU SEE, I MADE THIS PUDDING ...
...FOR YUYA-KUN TO EAT!

OH HO HO HO HO! YOU'VE ALREADY GOT THE HANG OF PLEASING A WOMAN!


...SO YOU CAN SEE YOUR MOMMY SOON!
NOW EAT UP AND GET BETTER.

BUT
WELL... I GUESS IT CAN'T BE HELPED...
THE PRESS GETS ITS INFORMATION FROM ALL SORTS OF PLACES.
...THAT WORD ABOUT YUYA-KUN'S MOTHER LEAKED OUT
Yummy!

I HOPE HE'S ALL RIGHT. I WONDER IF HE'S HAD ANY TROUBLE WITH THOSE JOURNALISTS


HE WASN'T IN HIS ROOM.

...WHY HAVEN'T THEY PRINTED SEI-CHAN'S NAME? AFTER ALL, HE WAS THE VICTIM

DON'T YOU THINK IT'S STRANGE?
WHAT?

WHAT?

HE WASN'T THERE.
I LOOKED EVERYWHERE, BUT I COULDN'T FIND HIM.

NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT...

IT SEEMS THE TIME TO SETTLE OUR BET...
...HAS FINALLY ARRIVED..

...SUBARU-KUN...

SAVE TOKYO CITY STORY 6

東京

BABYLON

AND THE INHABITANTS OF TOKYO

STARRING SUBARU SUMERAGI/HOKUTO SUMERAGI/SEISHIRO SAKURAZUKA

FIRST PUBLICATION/SOUTH SHINSHOKAN INC.+NEWLY

SIX 6

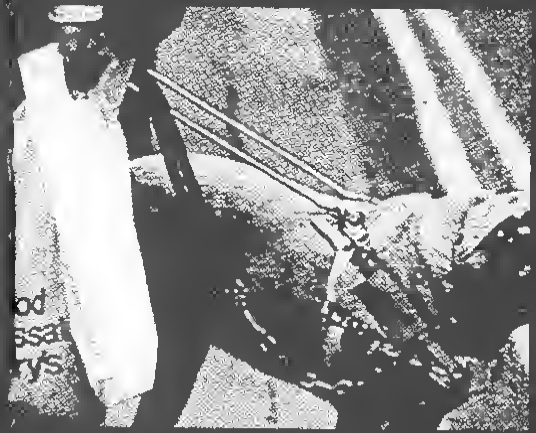
VOL.10/PAIR

MADE IN JAPAN 1993

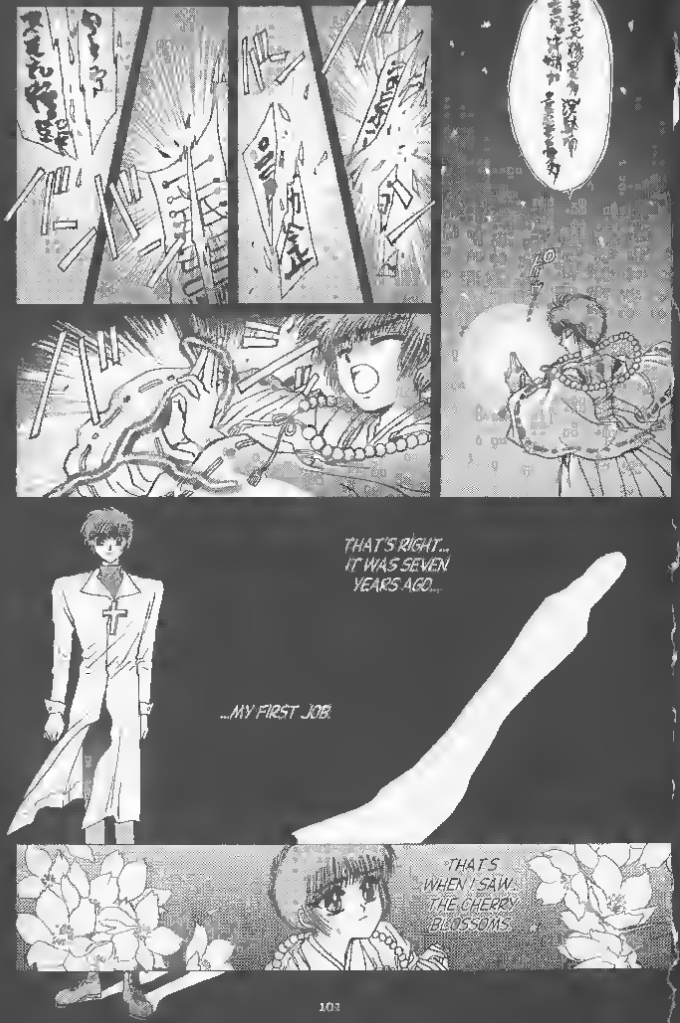
TOKYO BABYLON

PLANNING AND PRESENTED BY CLAMP/1993 JAPAN

‡pair [péər] n. even; equal; two matching parts.



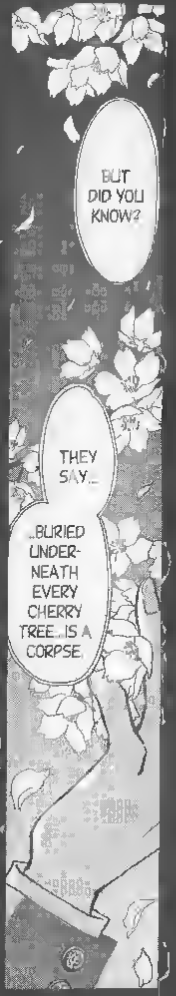
I WAS BORN IN KYOTO. I WAS RAISED THERE WITH HOKUTO-CHAN UNTIL I WAS EIGHT.
AND WHEN I WORE THESE ROBES, I WAS PREPARING TO BECOME THE THIRTEENTH GENERATION CHIEF OF THE SUMERAGI CLAN.
MY GRANDMOTHER HAD BROUGHT ME TO TOKYO FOR TRAINING.
THIS IS THE OFFICIAL DRESS FOR PERFORMING ONMYOJI RITES...
...SO I MUST BE AROUND NINE YEARS OLD HERE.


THAT'S RIGHT... IT WAS SEVEN YEARS AGO...
...MY FIRST JOB.
"THAT'S WHEN I SAW... THE CHERRY BLOSSOMS."

YOU SEE, CHERRY BLOSSOMS START OUT WHITE.
WHITE LIKE SNOW

YES THE REASON CHERRY TREES BLOOM SO BEAUTIFULLY EVERY YEAR...
...IS BECAUSE OF THE CORPSE BURIED UNDERNEATH.

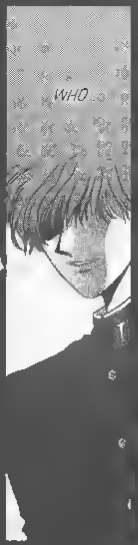
A CORPSE...!

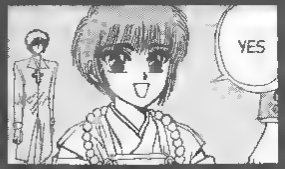

BUT DID YOU KNOW?
THEY SAY...
...BURIED UNDER-NEATH EVERY CHERRY TREE...IS A CORPSE.

THESE CHERRY BLOSSOMS ARE BEAUTIFUL...

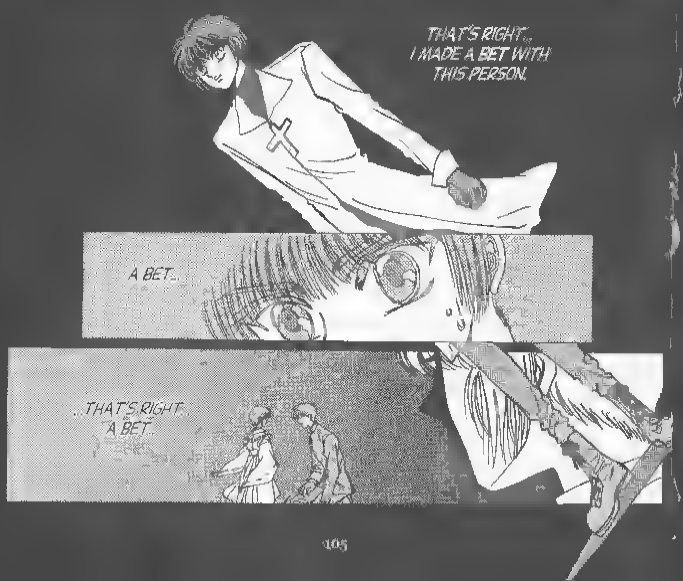
YOU LIKE CHERRY BLOSSOMS, DO YOU?

...WHO WAS THAT...?


...WHO...


YES

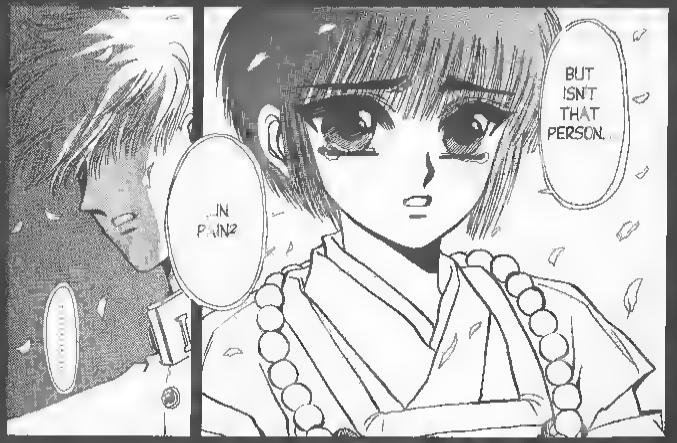
I'LL MAKE A BET WITH YOU


THAT'S RIGHT... I MADE A BET WITH THIS PERSON.
A BET...
...THAT'S RIGHT... A BET...

SO DO YOU KNOW WHY CHERRY BLOSSOM PETALS...
...TURN A PALE RED?

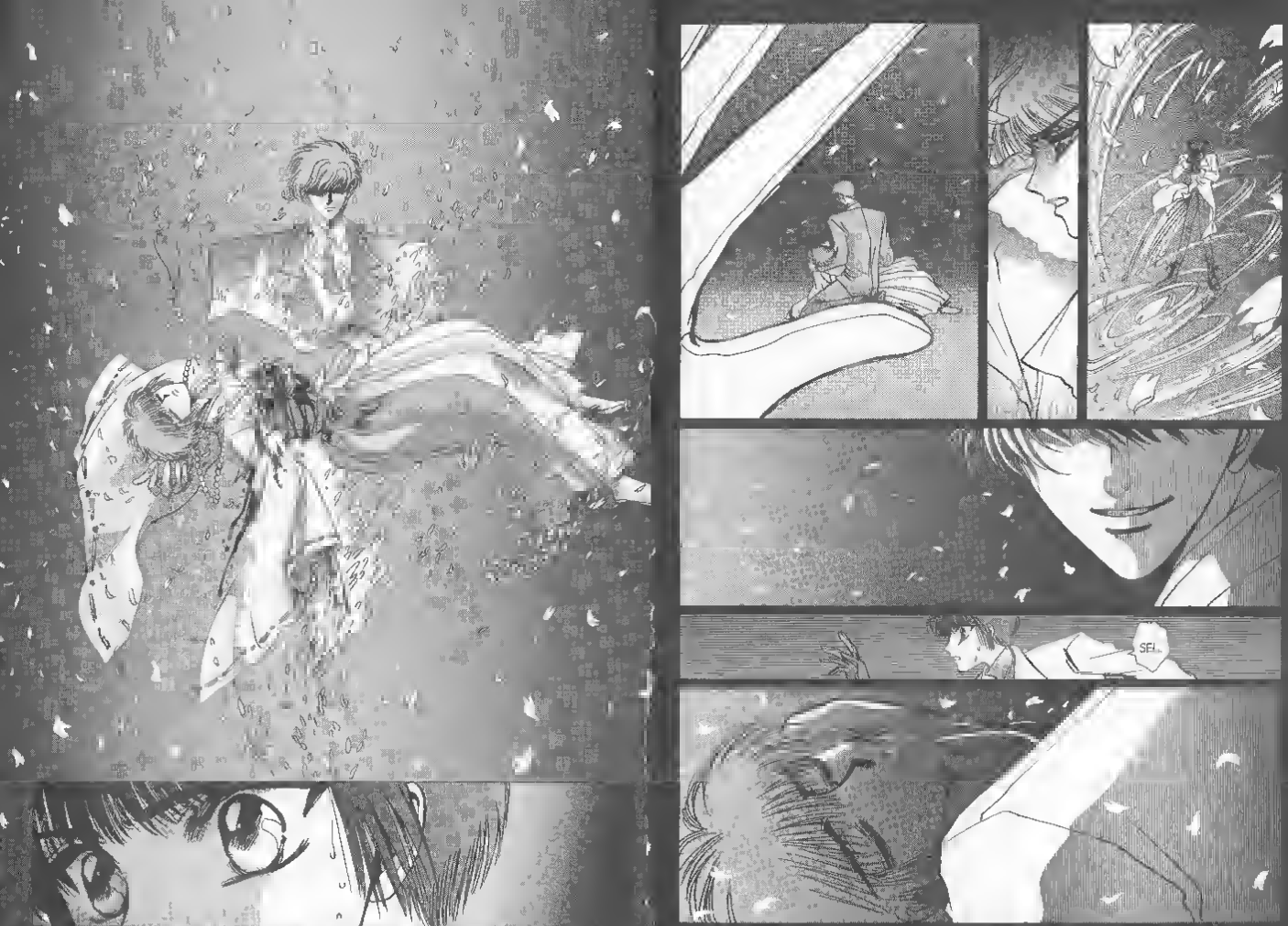
NO

BECAUSE THEY DRINK THE BLOOD...
...OF THE CORPSE BENEATH.

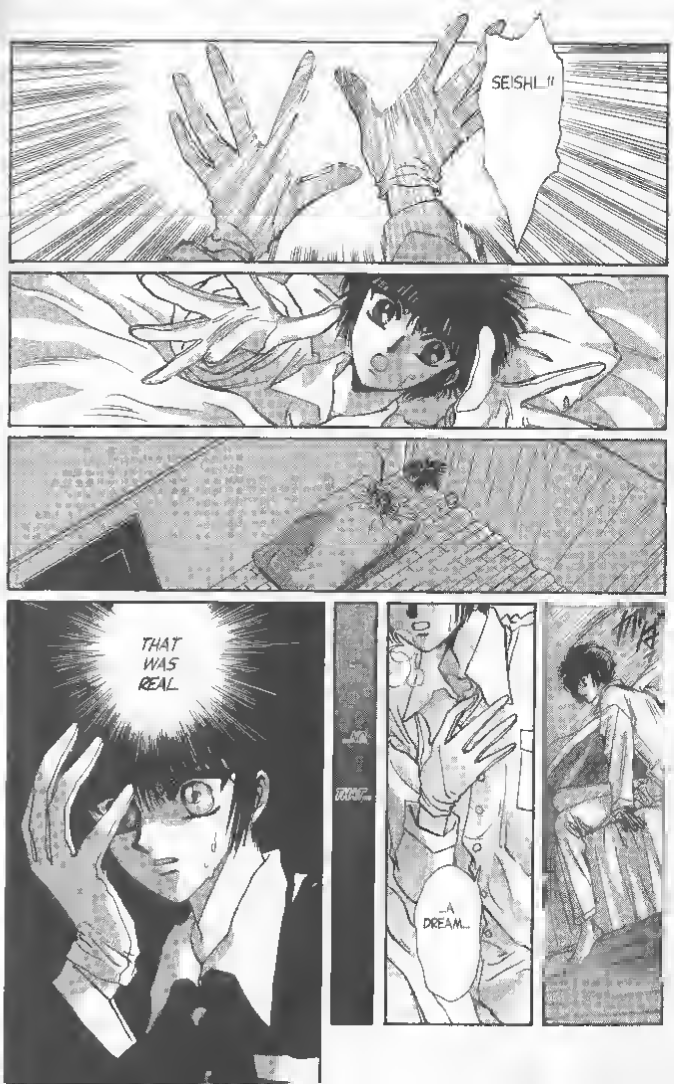

BUT ISN'T THAT PERSON...
...IN PAIN?

IF YOU AND I SHOULD EVER MEET AGAIN...
I'M SORRY...I COULDN'T HEAR YOU...
...THE WIND...

IT SEEMS THE TIME HAS COME TO SETTLE OUR BET
THE... CHERRY BLOSSOMS...


SEI...

THAT WAS A MEMORY
BUT I...
WHOSE NAME WAS I CALLING OUT?
...AS I WOKE UP...


SEISHL!!
THAT WAS REAL
...A DREAM...

SO...SHE HAS THE DAY OFF TODAY?
TODAY SHE DOES.
BUT TOMORROW SHE HAS TO WORK...
...THE NIGHT SHIFT.
EVEN AFTER HE GETS OUT OF THE HOSPITAL...
...HIS RIGHT EYE WILL STILL BE...
WORK IS ALWAYS HARD.
WHETHER YOU WORK IN A NIGHTCLUB OR IN CHILDCARE...
YEAH. IT'S ALWAYS TOUGH IN THE SERVICE INDUSTRY.
WHETHER YOU'RE AN ONMYOJI OR A VETERINARIAN
IT MUST BE HARD FOR HER.
I WONDER WHAT SEISHIRO SAN
IS GOING TO DO WITH HIS VETERINARIAN BUSINESS.

HOKUTO-CHAN!
HEY-YOU GOING SOME-WHERE? OFF TO WORK MAYBE?
NO...I WAS GOING TO VISIT SEISHIRO-SAN.
GOOD MORNING!
yoo
Hoo!
...IN SHIN-JUKU!
YUP. I HAVE A DATE WITH THAT GIRL I MET...
YOU'RE GOING OUT TOO HOKUTO-CHAN?
OH. I WISH YOU'D TOLD ME YOU WERE GOING TODAY.
I'VE ALREADY MADE PLANS!
HO HO HO! I'M MADAME BUTTERFLY!
Here you go, Hiromi!
THAT'S RIGHT. WE'RE GOING TO YOYOGI PARK TO PLAY BADMINTON!
UH, I THINK THAT'S TENNIS
OH...THAT GIRL WHO CAME TO YOUR ROOM LAST MONTH
THE ONE WHO SPOKE BEAUTIFUL JAPANESE.

I DON'T THINK SEI-CHAN
...WILL BE CONTINUING HIS VETERINARY PRACTICE.
SUBARU
WHAT?
WHAT DO YOU THINK OF SEI-CHAN?
I MEAN..
...WHAT DO YOU THINK OF SAKURAZUKA SEISHIRO?
WHY ARE YOU ASKING ME THAT ALL OF A SUDDEN ?
THINK CARE-FULLY
I KNOW IT'S HARD FOR YOU.
...TO THINK ABOUT YOU..

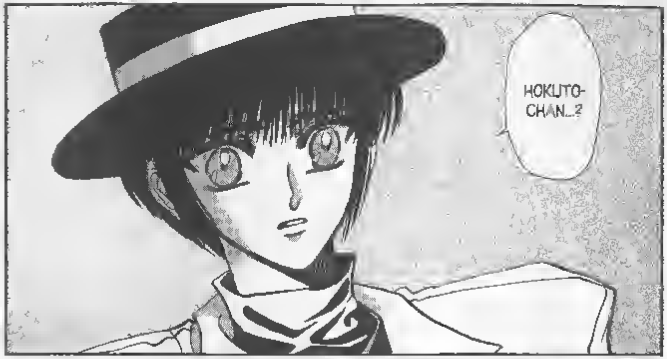
WHEN WE WERE LITTLE, WE BOTH RECEIVED ONMYOJI TRAINING
BUT I DIDN'T DEVELOP PSYCHIC POWERS OR ONMYOJI SKILLS
UNLIKE YOU SUBARU...
...I DIDN'T INHERIT THE TALENTS OF AN ONMYOJI
HOKU-TO..
CHAN..
...AND JUST A FEW OF THOSE
EVEN NOW I CAN ONLY PERFORM SIMPLE SPELLS
BUT I DO HAVE ONE THING THAT YOU DON'T
...BUT WHEN IT COMES TO HIM..
...I WANT YOU TO ASK YOUR-SELF...
...WHAT DOES SUMERAGI SUBARU...
...THINK ABOUT SAKURA-ZUKA SEI-SHIRO?

THAT WOULD BE...
...SEISHIRO SAN...
SUBARU, I WANT YOU TO THINK CAREFULLY...
WHO WENT THROUGH THE BIGGEST CHANGE OVER THE COURSE OF THIS INCIDENT?
MAYBE THAT'S WHY I UNDERSTAND WHAT GOES ON IN YOUR HEART INSTEAD
NO
HE HASN'T CHANGED
IS THAT HE STOPPED PRETENDING
THE ONLY THING I WOULD CONCEDE ABOUT HIM

THE ABILITY TO KNOW WHAT'S IN YOUR HEART
YOU'RE SO SENSITIVE TO OTHER PEOPLE'S PAIN AND SADNESS...
BUT YOU'RE NUMB TO YOUR OWN EMOTIONS
BUT YOU DON'T UNDER STAND YOURS AT ALL...
YOU CAN SEE INTO OTHER PEOPLE'S HEARTS SUBARU

AND WHEN THAT HAPPENS..
..BUT I HAVE A FEELING THAT SOON... YOU'LL FIND OUT.
EVEN YOU DON'T KNOW WHY YOU WEAR THEM...
YOU'VE ALWAYS WORN THEM, SINCE YOU WERE NINE
THOSE GLOVES
WHAT?

PLEASE...
DON'T LEAVE ME


HOKUTO-CHAN...?

I LOVE YOU, SUBARU

AT THAT MOMENT...
WHEN HE WAS SLASHED, WHAT WAS I THINKING?
WHEN I SAW SEISHIRO-SAN BLEEDING, I COULDN'T THINK OF ANYTHING.
BUT... WHAT DO I REALLY THINK OF SEISHIRO-SAN?

HOKUTO-CHAN...
..WHAT DOES SUMERAGI SUBARU THINK ABOUT SAKURAZUKA SEISHIRO?
..BUT WHEN IT COMES TO HIM, I WANT YOU TO ASK YOURSELF..
WHO WENT THROUGH THE BIGGEST CHANGE OVER THE COURSE OF THIS INCIDENT?
SUBARU, I WANT YOU TO THINK CAREFULLY.
WHAT DO I THINK ABOUT SEISHIRO-SAN?
HE'S ALWAYS SMILING...AND HE'S A VETERINARIAN. SOMETHING I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO BE.

THAT'S A BIG DOG YOU GOT THERE!
IT'S A SEEING EYE DOG
WHOaaaaaaa!
REALLY? NEVER SEEN ONE OF THOSE BEFORE
HEY, WHAT'D I JUST SAY? I'M JUST GONNA BORROW IT
I'VE NEVER SEEN A SEEING EYE DOG BEFORE!
HEY--LEMME BORROW YOUR DOG FOR A WHILE!
PLEASE-- STOP IT! THIS DOG IS A SEEING EYE DOG!

WHY WAS I CRYING?
I JUST KEPT POUNDING ON THE DOOR OUTSIDE THE OPERATING ROOM.
SURGERY IN PROGRESS
WHY DID I LOSE SUCH CONTROL THAT I COULDN'T EVEN HEAR HOKUTO-CHAN'S VOICE?
BACK THEN, I WAS WORRIED ABOUT SEISHIRO-SAN.
BUT THAT'S NOT ALL. I WAS
...I WAS.

YEAH!
YEAH!
I'LL GIVE HIM RIGHT BACK— JUST LEMME BORROW HIM FOR A WHILE!
THIS DOG'S REAL SMART, HUH?
BUT—I CAN'T DO ANYTHING WITHOUT HIM!
I WANT A SEEING EYE DOG, TOO!
HEY— THIS DOG DOESN'T BARK.
SEEING EYE DOGS...
...ARE TRAINED NOT TO BARK

WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?
HE'S IN PAIN
PLEASE... LET HIM GO
PLEASE LET GO OF HIS HARNESS
I'M JUST ASKING HIM TO LET US BORROW HIS DOG!
I'M NOT HURTING HIM!
IT MAY BE JUST A LITTLE WHILE TO YOU...
BUT FOR HIM, IT'S A VERY LONG TIME

IF SOMEONE ASKED TO BORROW YOUR EYES FOR A WHILE...
THIS DOG IS HIS EYES
...YOU WOULDN'T JUST SAY YES, WOULD YOU?
WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?!
WHAT THE HELL'S WITH YOU?!
YOU SHOULDN'T BULLY A SEEING EYE DOG

IT MAY NOT BE A BIG DEAL TO YOU
BUT TO THIS MAN, IT IS
GGGGGH
SO, PLEASE...
HE'S NOT DOING IT FOR FUN
THIS DOG IS WORKING HARD TO DO ITS JOB
...DON'T TEASE HIM FOR YOUR OWN FUN
OWWWWW!!

Whaaaat?!
SURE. DIDN'T LOOK IT TO ME.
YEAH. HE LOOKS TOO CUTE
Y'KNOW?
YEAH... REALLY CUTE.
whisper
THAT'S WHAT MADE HIM SO SCI...Y...
...THAT WAS SOMEONE WHO'S EXPERIENCED COMBAT.
BUT YOU'RE A BLACK BELT IN KARATE!
THAT WASN'T KARATE, MAN...

ARE YOU OKAY?
.....
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

L-LET'S GO!
WHOA WHOA WHOA!
ぱっ

C'MON--YOU COULD'VE AT LEAST GIVEN HIM A SCARE!
WHAT THE HELL? THAT GUY WAS ALL SCRAWNY

HE MUST BE TRAINED IN SOME KIND OF MARTIAL ART
ALL HE DID WAS GRAB HOLD OF ME...
...BUT I COULDN'T MOVE AT ALL

I'M SORRY I WAS MEDDLING...
NO THANK YOU VERY MUCH YOU SAVED ME
I...I'M SORRY
I SAID ALL THOSE THINGS
...BUT HERE I AM, INTRUDING
NO—YOU REALLY DID RESCUE ME
WHEREVER I GO, PEOPLE WANT...
...TO TOUCH HIM OR CALL OUT TO HIM.
THOSE BOYS WERE AN EXTREME...
...BUT SEEING EYE DOGS ARE VERY RARE.

whimper-
SEEING EYE DOGS...
BUT IT SEEMS HE'S TAKEN A LIKING TO YOU
...ARE TRAINED NOT TO BE EMOTIONAL TOWARD ANYONE WHEN THEY'RE OUTSIDE.

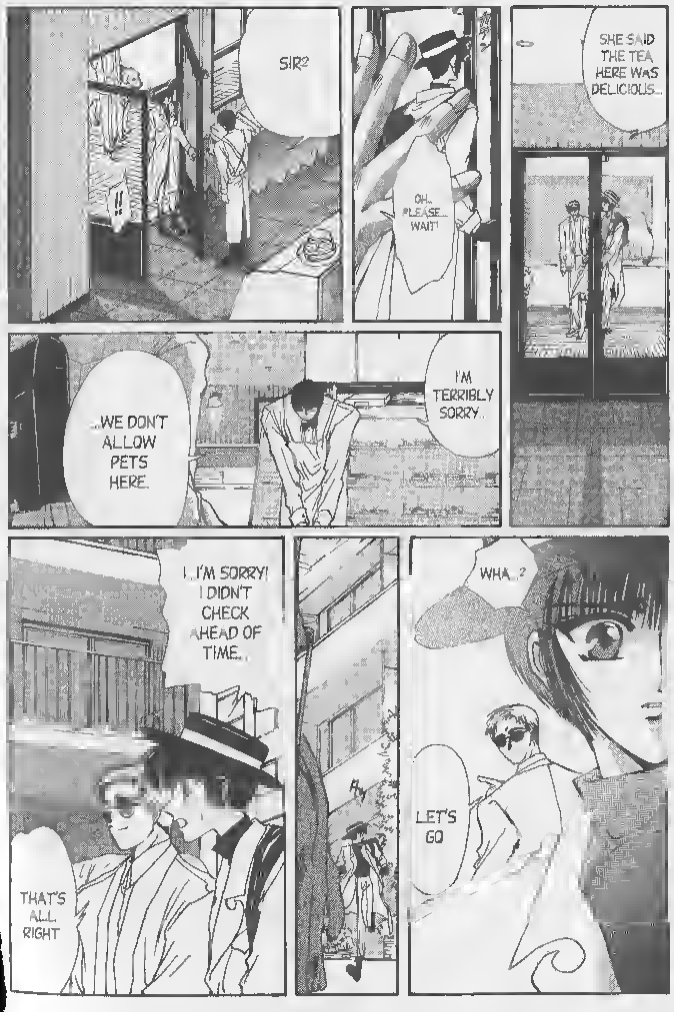
THE THINGS YOU SAID TO THOSE BOYS...
THAT'S NOT TRUE.
...THOSE ARE THINGS I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO SAY MYSELF.
EXCUSE ME FOR ASKING...
...BUT PERHAPS YOU HAVE A FRIEND WHO SUFFERS FROM BLINDNESS?
WHA...?
THIS DOG IS MY EYES.
HE'S MY INVALUABLE PARTNER...
...WHO WORKS HARD TO HELP ME.

IT SEEMS PEOPLE JUST DON'T UNDER-STAND...
...HOW HARD MY LIFE WOULD BE WITHOUT THIS DOG
I'M SORRY...
FOR WHAT?
EVEN I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT YOU AND THIS DOG GO THROUGH
AND YET I SAID ALL THOSE THINGS
I'M TRULY SORRY
BUT WHEN THEY SUDDENLY PULL ON THE HARNESS...
...THEY DON'T UNDER-STAND...
...HOW FRIGHTENING IT IS FOR ME, SINCE I CAN'T SEE.
NOT EVERYONE HAS BAD INTENTIONS
I KNOW KIDS ARE USUALLY INNOCENT--THEY JUST THINK THE DOG IS CUTE.

NO I'VE ALREADY FINISHED MY ERRANDS I WAS ON MY WAY HOME...
DO YOU HAVE ANY PLANS AFTER THIS?!
UH... WERE YOU ON YOUR WAY SOMEWHERE?
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
I'D LIKE THAT
UH... NOTHING IN PARTICULAR
TH-THAT IS IF YOU'VE GOT TIME... PERHAPS WE COULD UH, TALK SOMEWHERE..!
WELL-!
IF YOU DON'T MIND, COULD YOU PLEASE TELL ME MORE ABOUT SEEING EYE DOGS?!
OH
HOKUTO-CHAN?
SHE'S MY OLDER SISTER... MY TWIN SISTER
AH
THIS IS THE PLACE HOKUTO-CHAN TOLD ME ABOUT
OH-- HERE IT IS!

...NO THE DOCTOR SAID IF HIS LEFT EYE TRIED TO COMPENSATE, IT WOULD EVENTUALLY SUFFER AS WELL...
SEISHIRO-SAN CAN'T SEE
OUT OF HIS RIGHT EYE ANYMORE
OH, I'M SORRY...YOU SEEMED SO KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT SEEING EYE DOGS.
SO I THOUGHT MAYBE SOMEONE YOU KNEW OWNED ONE.
SEISHIRO-SAN...!
OH...I'M SORRY
AND NOW HE'S BLIND IN HIS RIGHT EYE
DID I SAY SOMETHING TO MAKE YOU UNCOMFORTABLE...?
OH, NO-- THAT'S NOT IT
IT'S JUST THAT BECAUSE OF ME
SOMEONE I KNOW SUFFERED AN INJURY

OH NO...
I'LL JUST FIND ANOTHER CAF-
THERE SHOULD BE A PARK NEARBY
LET'S JUST GO THERE.
NOT TO WORRY TODAY IS SUCH A BE...UTIFUL DAY.
MOST PLACES DON'T ALLOW PETS.
I'M SO SORRY...
PLEASE, DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT. THIS HAPPENS ALL THE TIME.
I FORCED YOU TO COME OUT WITH ME-
FOR WHAT?
I'M SORRY


SIR?
OH...PLEASE... WAIT!
SHE SAID THE TEA HERE WAS DELICIOUS...
...WE DON'T ALLOW PETS HERE.
I'M TERRIBLY SORRY.
I...I'M SORRY! I DIDN'T CHECK AHEAD OF TIME...
THAT'S ALL RIGHT
WHA...?
LET'S GO

THE SYSTEM WAS STARTED OVERSEAS BUT OF COURSE THERE ARE SEEING EYE DOGS IN JAPAN NOW TOO
HOWEVER THERE AREN'T ENOUGH TO GO AROUND YET.
HOW EVER
..EVEN IF HE PUT IN AN APPLICATION NOW IT MIGHT BE DIFFICULT FOR HIM TO GET A DOG.
THEN HE'LL BE GOOD ..T HANDLING A SEEING EYE DOG.
AND IF HE STARTS TRAINING ONE WHILE HE STILL CAN SEE, IT SHOULD MAKE THINGS MUCH EASIER.
YES
FOR ONE THING, SEEING EYE DOGS ARE AN OFFICIAL CLASSIFICATION DESIGNATED BY THE SEEING EYE FOUNDATION A CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION IN THE UNITED STATES
THEY ARE USUALLY SELECTED FROM GENTLE BREEDS LIKE THIS LABRADOR RETRIEVER, OR COLLIES SHEPHERDS, AND BOXERS
AND ARE TRAINED FROM PUPPY AGE TO BECOME PARTNERS FOR THE BLIND
AND THE DOCTOR SAID THAT EVEN WITH SURGERY...
HE WOULD NEVER ABLE TO SEE OUT OF HIS RIGHT EYE AGAIN
LIKE I SAID EARLIER
SOMEONE WAS HURT BECAUSE OF ME.
DIDN'T YOU WANT TO ASK ME ABOUT SEEING EYE DOGS?
OH... YES
SO THAT'S WHY YOU WANT TO KNOW ABOUT SEEING EYE DOGS
YES.
THE DOCTOR SAID THAT EVEN-TUALLY...
...HIS LEFT EYE WOULD GO AS WELL.
HOW WAS HIS EYESIGHT BEFORE THE ACCIDENT?
THIS PERSON IS ALSO A VETER-INARIAN-
..I THINK HE IS VERY KNOWLEDGE-ABLE ABOUT DOGS
..I DON'T KNOW FOR SURE..BUT HE DID WEAR GLASSES
HMM..IF HE CAN'T SEE OUT OF HIS RIGHT EYE, HE COULD END UP OVER WORKING HIS LEFT

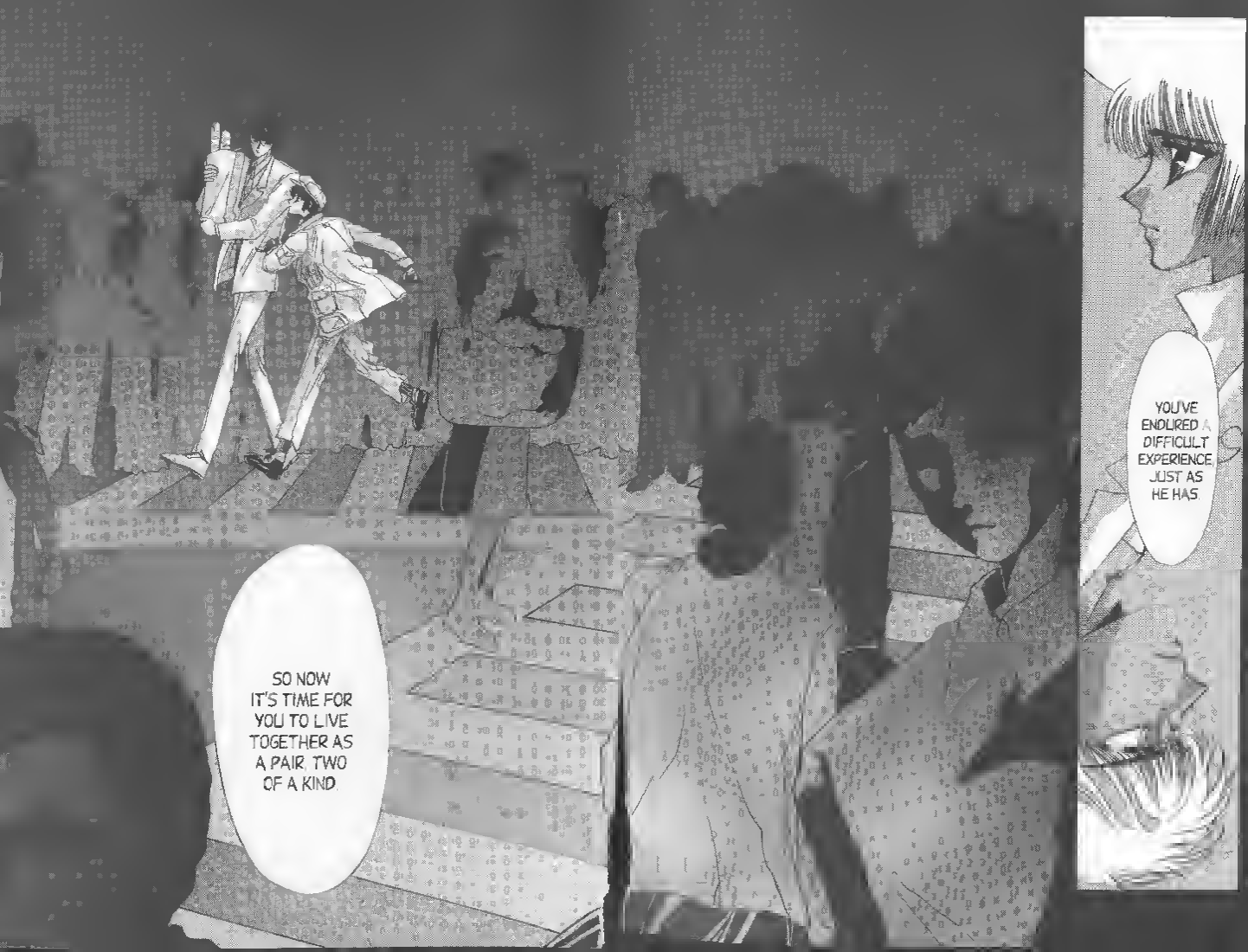
IN A LOT OF WAYS, JAPANESE SOCIETY...
IS NOT VERY KIND TO THOSE WHO ARE HANDICAPPED
IN ADDITION, SEEING EYE DOGS ARE STILL NOT OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZED IN MANY PLACES IN JAPAN
HARDLY ANY RESTAURANTS OR HOTELS ALLOW PETS..
...AND THERE ARE NOT MANY PUBLIC PLACES ONE CAN GO WITH A DOG
FOR A SINGLE PUPPY TO BECOME A SEEING EYE DOG
...SEVERAL YEARS AND SEVERAL MILLION YEN* ARE REQUIRED
*TENS OF THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS
THERE AREN'T ENOUGH TRAINERS YET
...AND THE NUMBER OF SEEING EYE DOGS PRODUCED EVERY YEAR COVERS ONLY A SMALL PERCENTAGE OF THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO NEED THEM.
BUT... WHAT ARE BLIND PEOPLE SUPPOSED TO DO?
EVEN IF IT'S A SEEING EYE DOG...?
SADLY YES.

TH...
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
WELL, THERE'S A SEEING EYE DOG FOUNDATION IN JAPAN
I'LL GIVE YOU THEIR CONTACT INFORMATION
THE CHANCE OF SUCCESS IS LIMITED... BUT STILL, THERE IS A CHANCE.
DO YOU REMEMBER WHAT I SAID?
THAT THIS DOG IS MY EYES?
MY INVALUABLE PARTNER?
WELL, WHEN I RECEIVED THIS DOG.
THIS IS WHAT THE TRAINER SAID
YES

IT WAS MY FAULT...
...THAT HE LOST THE SIGHT IN HIS RIGHT EYE
I MAY NOT BE ABLE TO SEE, BUT BY LISTENING TO A PERSON'S VOICE...
...I CAN TELL HOW THEY'RE FEELING.
YOU'RE VERY CONCERNED FOR YOUR FRIEND, AREN'T YOU?
WHAT?
IS THAT WHAT HE SAYS?
HE SMILED AND SAID IT WASN'T MY FAULT...
NO!
SO WHEN I MET YOUR DOG, I THOUGHT AT LEAST...
...SINCE HE'S SO KIND TO ANIMALS HE WOULD DO WELL WITH A SEEING EYE DOG TOO
I'VE BEEN THINKING FOR SUCH A LONG TIME ABOUT WHAT I COULD DO...
...BUT THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO.
BUT STILL, YOU WANT TO DO SOMETHING FOR HIM.
DON'T YOU?

BUT I CAN TELL YOU'VE BEEN SUFFERING FOR HIM AS WELL
YOU SAY THERE IS NOTHING YOU CAN DO FOR HIM
NO NOTHING
BUT THAT'S NOT TRUE
UNTIL HE RECEIVES HIS SEEING EYE DOG YOU CAN BE HIS EYES
AS HE LOSES HIS SIGHT, YOU CAN TAKE OVER...
—AND BE THE ONE WHO LOOKS OUT FOR HIM.

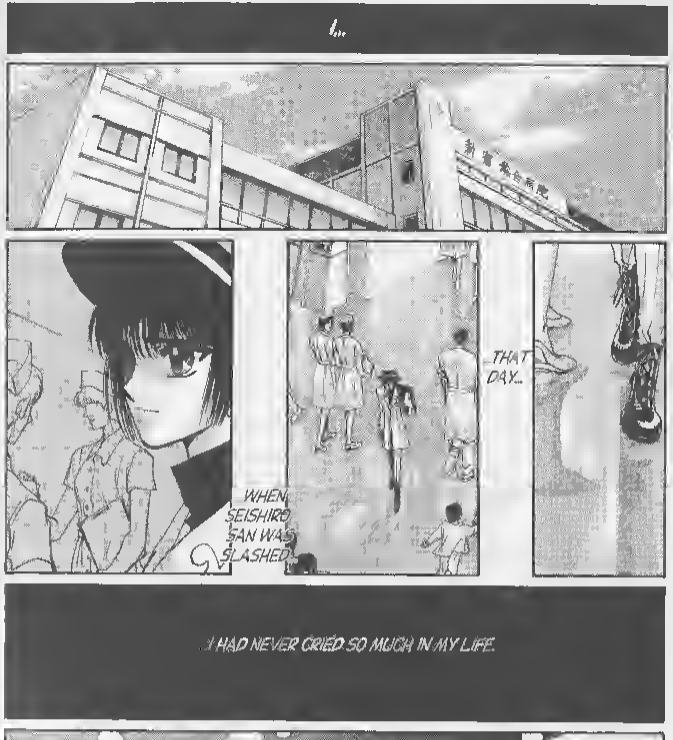
"THIS DOG WAS SURELY BORN TO LIVE WITH YOU"
"BOTH OF YOU HAVE ENDURED A LOT OF HARDSHIPS IN ORDER TO MEET.
SO FROM NOW ON, YOU MUST LIVE TOGETHER AS A PAIR"
WHEN YOUR FRIEND LEARNED HE HAD LOST HIS SIGHT— I'M SURE IT MUST HAVE BEEN VERY DIFFICULT FOR HIM
BUT WHILE I WAS SUFFERING, THIS DOG WAS ALSO ENDURING HARD TRAINING TO BECOME A SEEING EYE DOG
I LOST MY SIGHT IN AN ACCIDENT
EVERY DAY WAS SO DIFFICULT


SO NOW IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO LIVE TOGETHER AS A PAIR, TWO OF A KIND.
YOU'VE ENDURED A DIFFICULT EXPERIENCE, JUST AS HE HAS.

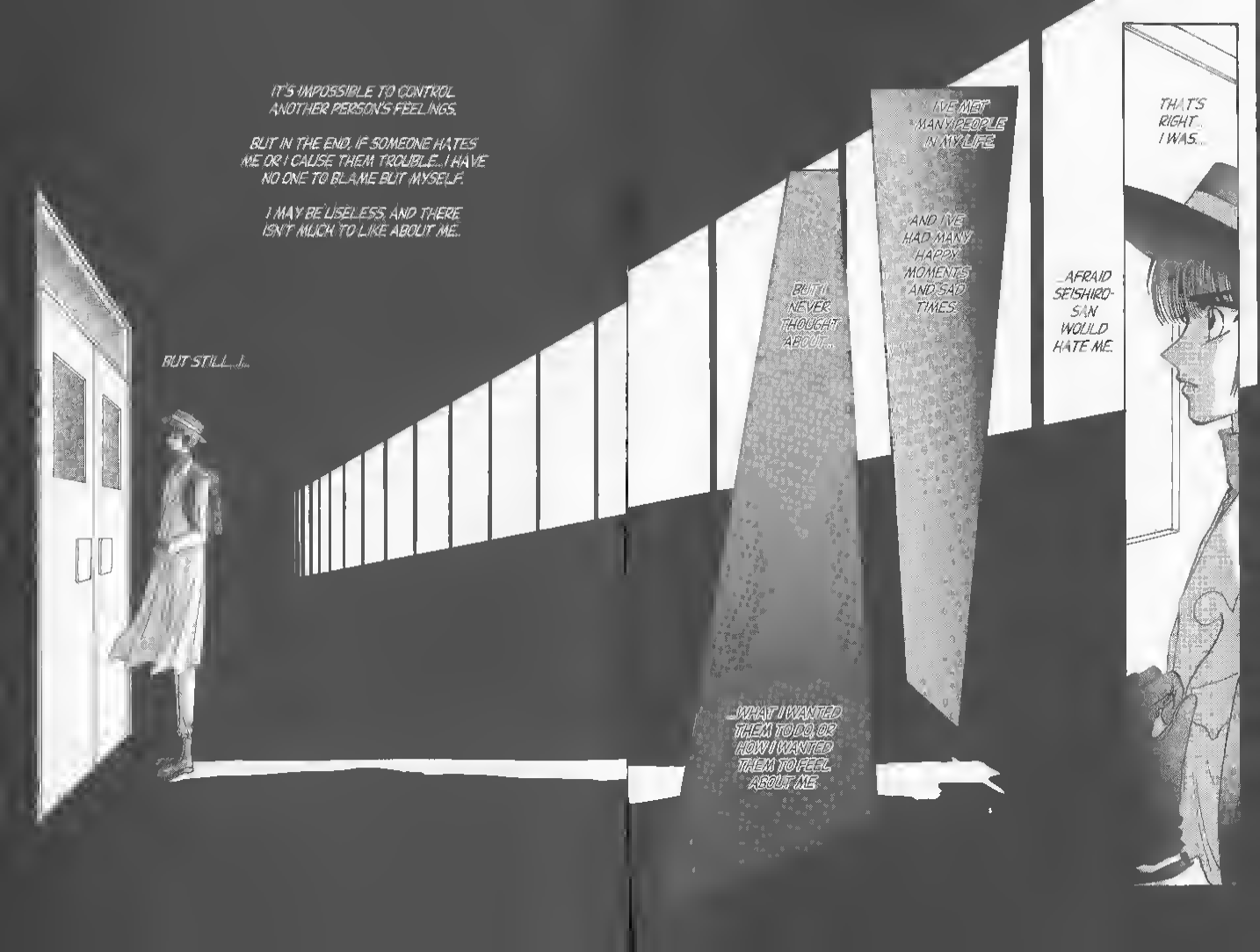
JUST LIKE ME AND THIS DOG
THANK YOU VERY MUCH
NO APOLOGIES NEEDED. I WAS JUST HAPPY TO HAVE A NICE TALK.
S-SORRY IT WAS ONLY CANNED COFFEE!
NO-- THANK YOU
NOT ONLY DID YOU RESCUE ME, YOU TREATED ME TO COFFEE.

IT SEEMS THAT BECAUSE I'M BLIND PEOPLE THINK OF ME AS PECULIAR
VERY FEW PEOPLE WILL START A CONVERSATION WITH ME.
YOU TRULY LOVE THIS PERSON... ...DON'T YOU?
WHAT?
...BUT JUST FROM YOUR VOICE, I CAN TELL THAT YOU TRULY LOVE THIS PERSON
AND YOU DO FEEL GUILT OVER THE PART YOU PLAYED IN YOUR FRIEND'S INJURY..
...YOU SEEM LIKE A VERY KIND PERSON
OF COURSE
...LOVE

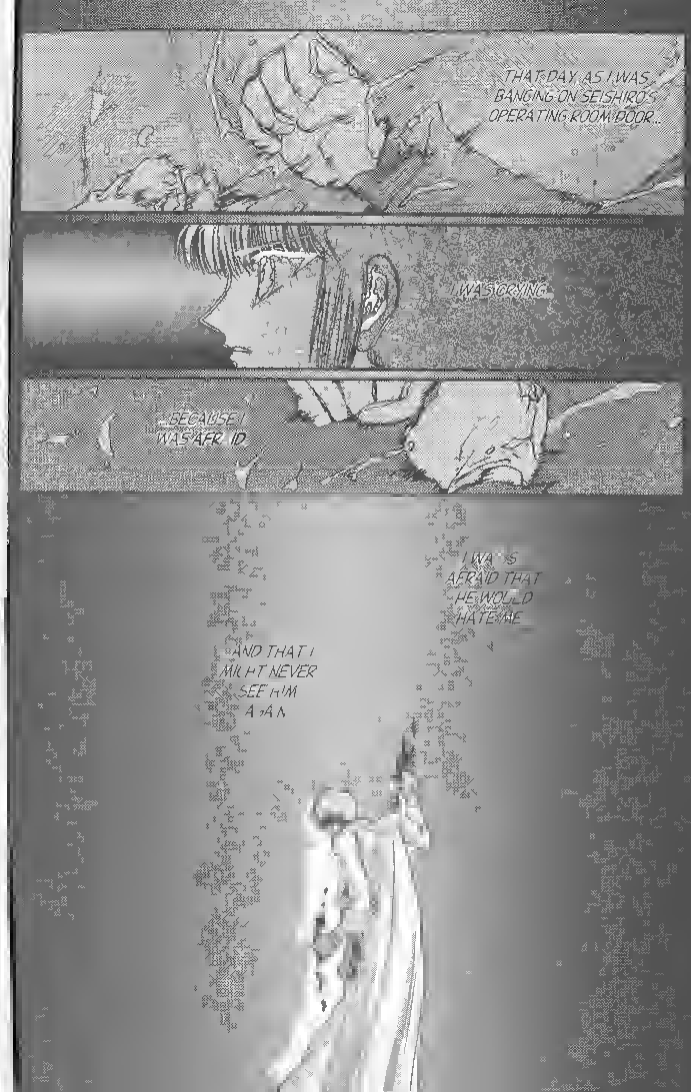
BUT THAT'S NOT ALL...
203
Sakurazuka Seishiro
I...


I...
...THAT DAY...
WHEN SEISHIRO SAN WAS SLASHED...
...I HAD NEVER CRIED SO MUCH IN MY LIFE.
I WAS SO WORRIED FOR SEISHIRO-SAN.
I WAS SO CONFUSED...
...I DIDN'T KNOW WH...T TO DO.

...I WAS AFRAID...
...YOU WOULD HATE ME.


IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO CONTROL ANOTHER PERSON'S FEELINGS.
BUT IN THE END, IF SOMEONE HATES ME OR I CAUSE THEM TROUBLE... I HAVE NO ONE TO BLAME BUT MYSELF.
I MAY BE USELESS, AND THERE ISN'T MUCH TO LIKE ABOUT ME.
BUT STILL...I...
I'VE MET MANY PEOPLE IN MY LIFE
AND I'VE HAD MANY HAPPY MOMENTS AND SAD TIMES...
BUT I NEVER THOUGHT ABOUT...
...WHAT I WANTED THEM TO DO, OR HOW I WANTED THEM TO FEEL ABOUT ME.
...AFRAID SEISHIRO-SAN WOULD HATE ME.
THAT'S RIGHT... I WAS...

I'M IN LOVE WITH SEISHIRO-SAN
I...


THAT DAY, AS I WAS BANGING ON SEISHIRO'S OPERATING ROOM DOOR...
I WAS CRYING...
...BECAUSE I WAS AFRAID
I WAS AFRAID THAT HE WOULD HATE ME
AND THAT I MIGHT NEVER SEE HIM AGAIN

IT SEEMS THE TIME TO SETTLE OUR BET HAS FINALLY COME...

PLANNING AND PRESENTED BY • CLAMP

TOKYO BABYLON●SIX

初出一覧●VOL.9●NEWS●サウス '93年 Spring号

VOL.10●PAIR●サウス '93年 Summer号

●CLAMP●SHINSHOKAN

NEXT STAGE●TOKYO BABYLON.7